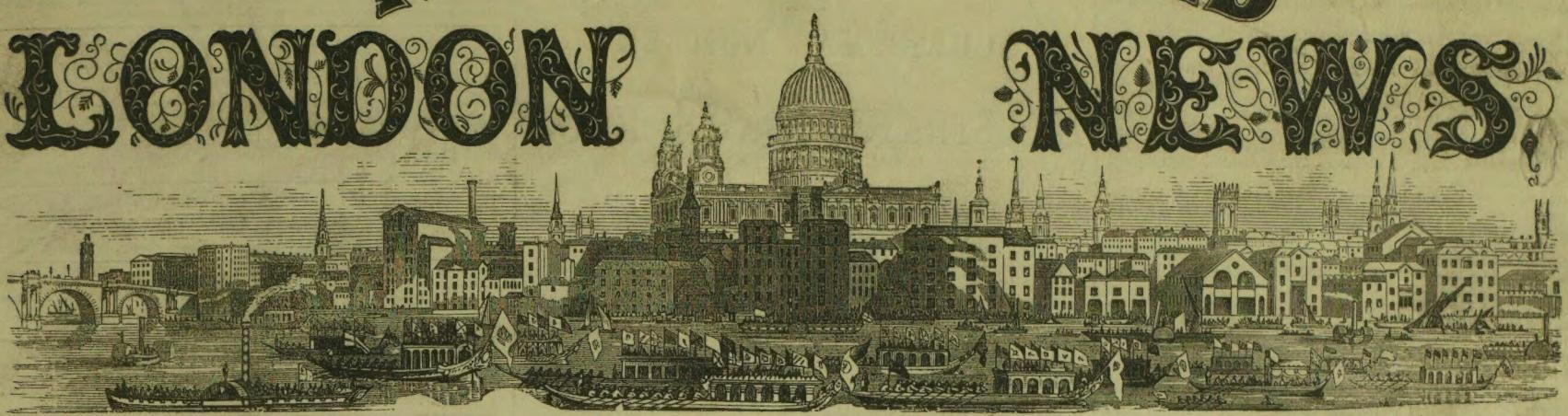


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

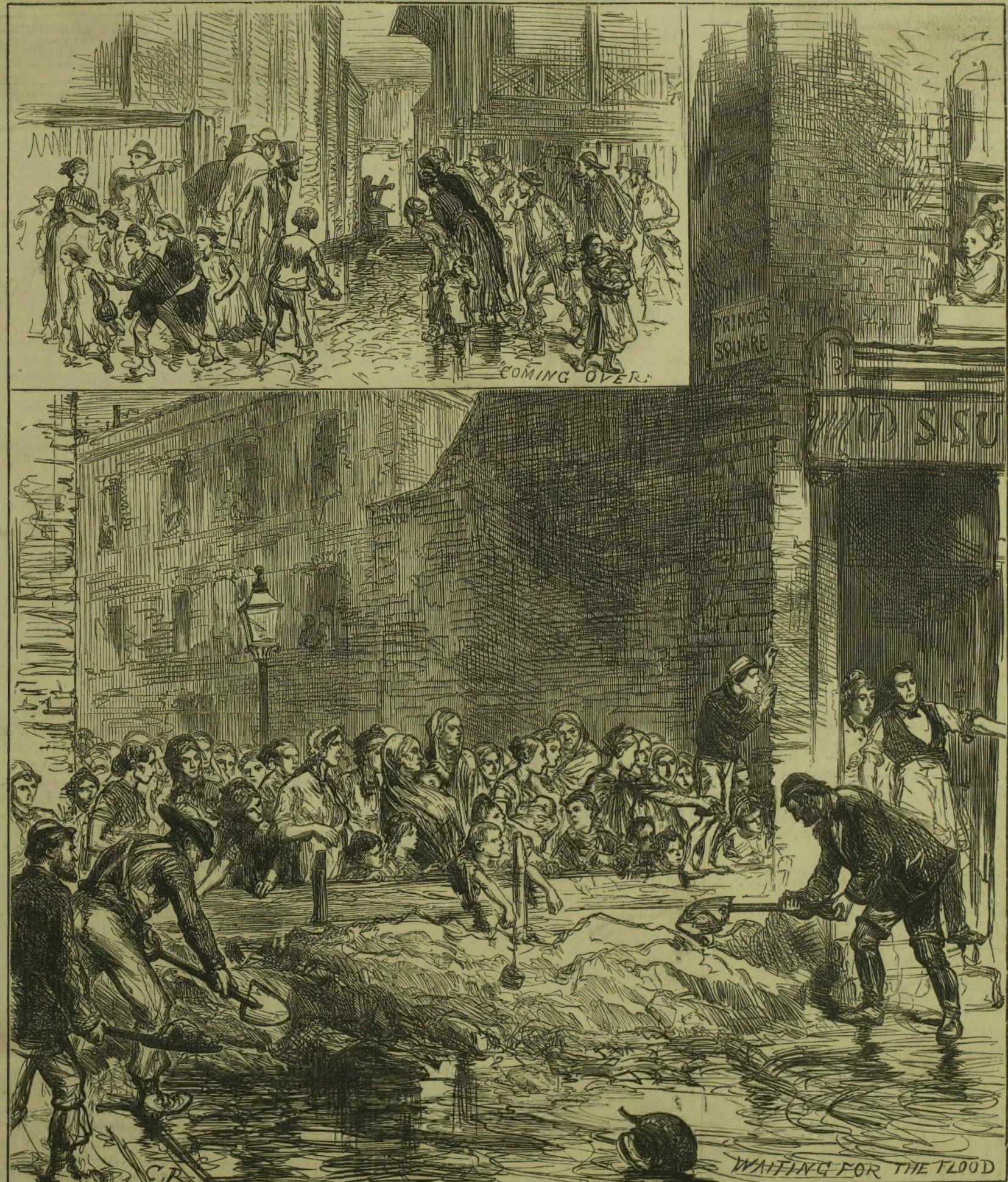


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1957.—VOL. LXX.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1877.

WITH SUPPLEMENT AND } SIXPENCE.
TITLEPAGE AND INDEX } By Post, 6d.



THE THAMES TIDAL FLOOD: ENTRANCE TO PRINCE'S-SQUARE, LAMBETH.

BIRTHS.

On the 6th inst., at 24, Grafton-street, the Marchioness of Headfort, of a daughter.

On the 7th inst., at 6, Upper Brook-street, Lady Guendolen Ramsden, of a son.

On the 6th inst., at Folkestone, Lady Rachel Saunderson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 2nd inst., by the Rev. Septimus Hansard, Rector of Bethnal-green, the Rev. J. Clough Williams Ellis, Rector of Guyton, Northamptonshire (late Fellow and Tutor of Sidney College, Cambridge), to Ellen Mabel, daughter of J. W. Greaves, Esq., of Bericotes, Warwickshire, High Sheriff for the county of Merioneth.

On the 4th inst., by special license, at 78, Harcourt-street, Dublin, Charles O'Connor, Assistant Commissary-General (Commissariat Staff), to Maude, youngest daughter of Joseph Manning, Esq.

DEATHS.

On the 8th inst., at Christleton Old Hall, Chester, Theodosia Fanny, wife of J. Verney L. Lace, Esq., aged 42.

On the 21st ult., at her residence, Summerhill, Birmingham, Rebecca Ann, relict of the late Commissary-General Henry Cockesedge, in her 89th year.

On the 31st ult., at Bibbeh, on the Nile, Egypt, Henry Waite, of 3, Victoria-street, Pimlico, and 27, Austinfriars, Old Broad-street, aged 58.

On Nov. 7, at Fairfield House, Victoria, British Columbia, Charlotte Hannah, relict of the late William Trutch, of Ashicot, Somersetshire, and only child of the late Hon. Joseph Barnes, of Kingston, Jamaica, aged 77 years and 1 day.

On the 11th inst., at his residence, 7, Finsbury-circus, Alfred Smees, F.R.S., aged 58. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 20.

SUNDAY, JAN. 14.

Second Sunday after Epiphany. New Moon, 1.28 p.m. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Rev. J. M. Robertson, Lord Mayor's Chaplain; 3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Lightfoot; 7 p.m., Very Rev. Dr. Burges, Dean of Chichester.

Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., Ven. Archdeacon Jennings; 3 p.m., Rev. Canon Miller, Vicar of Greenwich.

St. James's, noon, uncertain. Whitehall, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Rev. Francis J. Jayne, Oxford Preacher. Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. Henry White, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen; 7 p.m., Rev. Francis J. Jayne.

Temple Church, 11 a.m., Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Master; 3 p.m., Rev. A. Ainger, the Reader.

MONDAY, JAN. 15.

Oxford Hilary Term begins. Royal School of Mines, 10 a.m. (beginning of Dr. Frankland's course of thirty lectures on Organic Chemistry).

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, quarterly court, noon. Asiatic Society, 3 p.m. (Mr. H. Howorth on the Kin or Golden Tartars). London Institution, 5 p.m. (Dr. B. W. Richardson on Health Improvements in Great Cities).

Victoria Institute, 8 p.m. (Professor Lias on Christianity as a Moral Power). Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor E. Armitage on Painting). Medical Society, 8.30 p.m.

Munday Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m. Institution of Surveyors, 8 p.m. (Mr. W. T. Marriott on Riparian Rights). Royal School of Mines, lectures to working men, 8 p.m. (Professor Warington Smyth on Minerals: beginning of the course).

National Social Science Association, 8 p.m. (Serjeant Cox on Reform in the Procedure of Magistrates' Courts).

United Service Institution, 8.30 p.m. (Mr. S. J. Mackie on Cotton Gunpowder). London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, evening.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16.

Reddham Asylum for Fatherless Children, elections, Cannon-street Hotel. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Garrod on the Human Form).

National Indian Association, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. B. Phear on the Employment of Native Indian Gentlemen in Public Service of India).

Pathological Society, 8.30 p.m. Humane Society, committee, 4 p.m. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m. (Mr. Alexander McDonnell on Repairs and Renewals of Locomotives).

Zoological Society, 8.30 p.m. (Captain Fielden on some Arctic Birds; Professor A. H. Garrod on Solid-hoofed Pigs; Mr. H. Durnford on Mammals of the Argentine Republic; Mr. G. Kreft on a Young Cassowary from North Australia).

Statistical Society, 7.45 p.m. (Mr. F. G. Neison on Statistics of the Affiliated Orders of Friendly Societies—Odd Fellows and Forresters).

Gresham Lectures, 6 p.m. (Mr. T. F. Dallin on Rhetoric), four days.

Fakenham Poultry, Pigeon, and Rabbit Show, &c. (two days).

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17.

Horticultural Society, fruit and floral committee, 11 a.m.; scientific, 1 p.m. Entomological Society, 7 p.m., anniversary.

British Archaeological Association, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. W. Grover on the Suez Canal, Ancient and Modern; Mr. H. L. Cuming on Seigburg Stoneware).

Meteorological Society, 8 p.m., anniversary.

Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. G. C. T. Bartley on the Cultivation of Common Fruits in England; Mr. Hyde Clarke on Railway Wastes and Recitations).

St. James's Hall, 8 p.m. (Ballad Concert).

THURSDAY, JAN. 18.

Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Dr. C. A. Wright on Metals and their Uses). London Institution, 7 p.m. (Mr. W. A. Barrett on English Madrigal Composers, with Illustrations).

Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor E. Armitage on Painting).

Linnean Society, 8 p.m.

Chemical Society, 8 p.m. (Messrs. C. T. Kingzett and H. W. Hake on Some New Reactions in Organic Chemistry; papers by H. E. Armstrong, Dr. J. Stenhouse, and Mr. C. E. Groves).

Numismatic Society, 7 p.m. Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m. Psychological Society, 8.30 p.m. Royal Society, 8.30 p.m. Chemists' eleventh annual ball, Willis's Rooms.

Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, 8 p.m. (Haydn's "Creation").

Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, Jubilee Ball, St. James's Hall.

FRIDAY, JAN. 19.

Accession of William I., Emperor of Germany, 1871.

Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 2 p.m.

Philological Society, 3 p.m. (Dr. Weymouth on "Here" and "There" in Chancery).

Royal Institution, 8 p.m. (Professor Tyndall on a Combat with an Infective Atmosphere, 9 p.m.).

Medical Microscopical Society (at the Century Club, 6, Pall-mall East), annual meeting, 8 p.m.

United Service Institution, 8 p.m. (Lieut.-Colonel C. E. Howard Vincent, on the Military Geography of European Turkey).

SATURDAY, JAN. 20.

Physical Society, 3 p.m. Botanic Society, 3.45 p.m. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Mr. Ernst Pauer on the Nature of Music, with Pianoforte Illustrations).

Saturday Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

South Kensington Museum, Loan Collection, 8 p.m. (Professor Garrod on the Instruments exhibited by M. Marey, especially with reference to the Flight of Birds and Insects).

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEEV OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY	DAILY MEANS OF		THERMOM.		WIND.	General Direction.	Movement in Miles, In.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.			
	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	Minimum, read at 10 P.M.	Maximum, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M. next morning.			
January 3	Inches. °	°	°	0-10°	E. S.	Miles, In.	423 0 330
4	29°37'2	47°1	45°3	'94 10	50°4 38.8	S. SSW.	339 0'15
5	29°13'1	49°3	46°4	'91 9	50°8 47.8	SSW.	395 170
6	29°19'4	47°1	43°6	'89 7	51°2 45°3	SW. S.	558 305
7	29°20'6	48°2	44°5	'88 —	51°7 45°9	SSW.	529 610
8	29°49'4	48°6	47°7	'97 10	50°4 46°3	SSW. S.	215 560
9	29°84'9	47°9	44°9	'90 6	52°2 44°5	S. SW.	178 560

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:—

Barometer (in inches) corrected .. 29.469 29.151 29.219 29.276 29.163 29.003 29.751
Temperature of Air .. 45°5° 49°7° 47°5° 48°8° 48°9° 49°1° 49°4°
Temperature of Evaporation .. 45°4° 48°7° 45°7° 45°6° 46°9° 48°6° 47°7°
Direction of Wind .. E. SSW. S. SSW. S. SSW. S. SW.

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OF

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REGENT-STREET and PICCADILLY.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON ... JAN. 23, at TWO.

TUESDAY EVENING ... JAN. 23, at EIGHT.

face of the earth as quietly as it once did. The immense extent to which land-draining has been carried gives a more concentrated direction to the form in which it finds its way to the sea. Percolation is, in great part at least, superseded by the more artificial methods now in use, and every stream that comes down from the higher regions of cultivated property pours itself unspent, because unabsorbed, into the channels furnished for it by the natural courses of the river beds. We are in a state of transition. We have interfered, and wisely so, with the distribution of waters as originally provided by nature. We have not yet completed our experiment. We have not succeeded as yet in separating the good from the evil of it. We realise more than we may hope some day to do of the latter, and the present effect, undoubtedly, may be seen in the swift and wide inundations by which parts of the country are swept.

The effects produced by the persistency of wet weather are already grave, and cast a gloomy hue over the year upon which we have just entered. We take no note now of the local distress the graphic accounts of which crowd our daily journals. There are localities in which floods do but little harm; but, alas! in how many are not only the broad acres, but the snug homes of agriculturists, submerged beneath the spreading floods! There is something rare and picturesque in the inhabitants of urban outskirts finding their way from house to house in boats, and receiving their daily necessary supplies into their first-floor windows—where, indeed, first floors avail them. But, after all, the reality is a disastrous one, and, besides the anxieties it inflicts, commonly leaves behind it an ample seed-plot of sickness. Nay, the very fields, we understand, have already sustained immense injury. Springing corn has been torn from the soil. Seed has rotted where it had already begun to germinate. There is a bad look-out for the next harvest. Large breadths of wealth in the shape of autumn labour and early preparations have been destroyed, and one does not feel at all confident that political quiet will come to restore productive enterprise during the course of the present year, or, indeed, if it do, that it will succeed in obliterating the traces of the mischief which has already been done.

It is a not uninteresting fact connected with the present meteorological disturbances that, apart from what may be regarded as local and accidental, the public health has not suffered as might naturally have been anticipated. Members of the medical profession, we believe, will admit that their practice during the passing winter has not been by any means heavy. The physical energies of all are depressed, and hence a readier susceptibility than usual to infectious complaints. But nervous depression, however hard to bear, may be borne generally without fatal result; whereas, if the season had been a pinching cold one, or even if it should become so, which is not at all impossible, all those diseases which affect the respiratory organs would have had, or may have, full scope for their deadliest assaults. Even relief, therefore, for the majority may come in the shape of suffering and death to a much larger minority. Happily, the choice of an alternative is not ours, for we should scarcely dare to exercise the responsibility of making one. We must do as men and women have done before our time—resign ourselves to such ills as are inevitable, and try to lessen them with such watchful assiduity as may be available. We may trim the fringes of our present condition to a small, and perhaps an appreciable, degree. The substance of it we cannot alter. Brighter days, in a physical sense, certainly, are yet in store for us; and in the sunlight of the coming summer it is by no means impossible that we shall forget the wretchedness to which we are now exposed.

The First Lord of the Admiralty has conferred the good-service pension of £150 a year for Captains of the Royal Navy on Captain John Clark Soady, R.N., in the room of Captain the Hon. F. Foley, promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

After an eloquent address from the Earl of Carnarvon, at a meeting in the Newbury Corn Exchange, on Tuesday, a resolution was proposed and carried with the purpose of raising funds for the erection of a monument to Lord Falkland, who fell in battle close to the town.

The Isle of Man Archaeological Commission was lately appointed by Mr. H. B. Loch, Lieutenant-Governor, to investigate the monuments of antiquity in that island, the Runic crosses and inscriptions, the barrows, and other Celtic or Norse remains. It began its work at a preliminary meeting last week, Mr. T. M. Jeffcott being chairman of the commission. We may here notice the publication of a new "Popular Guide to the Isle of Man," with a map and seventy illustrations. It is published at the office of the *Isle of Man Times*, at Douglas, but it is the joint work of many contributors particularly well acquainted with the several districts, or with special departments of local knowledge.

The senate of the University of Dublin, at a special meeting, last Saturday, discussed and adopted a scheme for the retirement of Fellows incapacitated by age or infirmity from discharging their duties. It provides that such retirements are not to be compulsory, and that to each Fellow so retiring there shall be given annually, out of the sum paid to Trinity College under the Church Disestablishment Act, as compensation for loss of the right of presentation to the livings formerly in its gift, a sum equal to the emoluments of his fellowship, not including those of any professorship or other collegiate office he may hold. Arrangements are also made for the retirement of incapacitated Professors on two thirds of their salary. The retirements are to be in all cases voluntary, and to be approved by the visitors. The senate also adopted a congratulatory address to the Duke of Marlborough on his assuming the Viceroyalty of Ireland.

THE COURT.

The Queen's dinner party at Windsor Castle, on Wednesday week, included Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, the Prince of Leiningen, Lady Abercromby, the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley, and Lord Bagot. The Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, the Prince of Leiningen, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar (who came from London) went out shooting the next day in Windsor Great Park. The Prince of Leiningen left the castle in the afternoon for London.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice were present, yesterday week, at a small entertainment given by Sir T. M. and the Hon. Lady Biddulph. Count and Countess Gleichen arrived at the castle, and, with Sir T. M. and the Hon. Lady Biddulph, dined with her Majesty.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove to New Lodge and visited Princess Louise of Lorne and the Marquis of Lorne, who are staying there. Count and Countess Gleichen left the castle. Prince and Princess Christian and the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Northcote dined with her Majesty.

The Queen, Princess Beatrice, and the Duke of Connaught attended Divine service, on Sunday, in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. F. Ponsonby, M.A., Rector of Brington, North Hants, officiated. Her Majesty's dinner party included the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Northcote, and the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley.

The Duke of Connaught and Strathearn left the castle, on Monday, for Sandringham. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote also left the castle.

Captain Hugh Campbell, R.N., was presented to the Queen on Tuesday by Lieutenant-General Sir T. M. Biddulph, on his appointment as Captain of her Majesty's Royal yacht Victoria and Albert, in succession to the Prince of Leiningen, who resigned the command of the Royal yacht on promotion. The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton, his Excellency Sir T. Wade (her Majesty's Minister in China), and Lady Wade, and Major-General H. Ponsonby dined with her Majesty.

The Queen is one of the sponsors to her grand-daughter Princess Victoria Melita of Edinburgh.

Her Majesty, with the members of the Royal family, has walked and driven out daily.

The Hon. Mary Pitt and the Hon. Ethel Cadogan have succeeded the Hon. Harriet Phipps and the Hon. Mary Lascelles as Maids of Honour in Waiting to her Majesty.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Princess of Wales and Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales attended Divine service, on Sunday, at Sandringham church. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow officiated. Prince Albert Victor of Wales attained his thirteenth year on Monday. The Prince of Wales returned to Sandringham from Eastwell Park, Kent, where he had passed several days shooting. The Duke of Connaught and Strathearn also arrived at Sandringham from Windsor Castle. The birthday was celebrated at Sandringham with the customary festivities. The Prince and Princess and the Duke of Connaught drove to Houghton Hall, the seat of the Marquis of Cholmondeley, on Wednesday, and attended a meet of the West Norfolk Hounds.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein arrived at Witley Court last Monday, on a visit to Earl and Countess Dudley.

His Excellency Count Beust returned, on Thursday, to the Austrian Embassy, Belgrave-square, from the Continent.

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Duchess of Marlborough, with Lady Rosamond Churchill and the younger branches of the family, accompanied by Lord and Lady Randolph Churchill and Sir Ivor and Lady Cornelia Guest, entered Dublin in state, on Wednesday, and were escorted with the customary pageant to the castle.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Abergavenny entertained a distinguished party at Eridge Castle, on Thursday week, at some private theatricals. In "Cinderella," the Ladies Alice, Idina, Rose, and Violet Nevill, with their cousin, Miss Ferry, as the Baroness, took a prominent part, and Lord William Nevill was the Fairy Godmother. In the comic farce of "The Area Belle" Mrs. Eastwood, Lord William Nevill, Lord George Nevill, and Mr. Hodgkin took part. A grand tableau, in which a ship arrived laden with New-Year's gifts for the audience, terminated the performance. The entertainment ended with a supper, followed by a dance.

The Right Hon. Sir Charles and the Hon. Lady Adderley had amateur theatricals last week, at Hams, their seat in Warwickshire, the second night ending in a ball.

The High Sheriff for Bucks and Lady Clayton gave a fancy-dress dance at their country house on Thursday.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

The marriage of Mr. Villiers Lister, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, son of the late Mr. Thomas and Lady Theresa Lister, with Miss Florence Selina Hamilton, second daughter of the late Mr. William J. and the Hon. Mrs. Hamilton, was solemnised, on Wednesday, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. The Hon. Henry Eliot acted as best man. The bridesmaids were Miss Meta Hamilton, her sister; the Hon. Beatrix Lister; Miss Mary and Miss Lilian Hamilton, her nieces; Miss Borthwick, Miss Florence Halford, and Miss Mary Stephenson. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Hamilton (late Grenadier Guards), wore a dress of ivory satin, trimmed with lace flowers and bouquets of orange-flowers; a wreath of orange-flowers and lace veil. The elder bridesmaids wore cream-coloured damassé princess dresses, trimmed with pale blue and Valenciennes lace, cream-coloured Rubens plush hats and blue feathers. The younger bridesmaids were attired in white angola dresses, trimmed with fur, and white fur caps. The religious rite was performed by the Hon. and Rev. Algernon C. Stanley, M.A., cousin of the bride, assisted by the Rev. H. Villiers, M.A., cousin of the bridegroom, and the Rev. Robert Eyton, M.A., Curate of St. Paul's. After the breakfast at Eaton House, Coleshill-street, the bride and bridegroom left for Combe Hurst, Kingston-hill. The bride's travelling-dress was of ruby velvet trimmed with dark fur.

The marriage of Hugh Maitland Fitzroy, youngest son of the late Rev. Augustus Fitzroy, and grandson of the late Lord Henry Fitzroy, to Bertha, only child of the late Major J. F. Kearney, of the 15th Hussars, was celebrated, on Thursday week, at Hatfield church, by the Hon. and Rev. William Whitworth Chetwynd Talbot, assisted by the Rev. Gilbert Coventry, uncles of the bride. The wedding party was confined to the nearest relatives of both families, owing to a recent death in the bride's family. She was given away by her uncle, Mr. G. Coventry. The breakfast was given at the rectory, Hatfield, by the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Talbot, uncle and aunt of the bride. The bride and bridegroom left for London en route for the Continent.

The *Morning Post* states that the marriage of Captain

Drummond Moray to Lady Georgina Seymour will take place at St. Peter's, Eaton-square, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst.; and that marriages are arranged between the Hon. Robert Marsham, uncle of the present and brother of the late Earl of Romney, and Miss Clara Paley, second daughter of the Rev. G. B. Paley, Rector of Freckenham, Suffolk; and between Sir Edmund Hardinge, Bart., of Boundes Park, Tunbridge Wells, and Miss Maberly, second daughter of General Maberly, C.B., Royal Artillery, of Avonmouth House, Christchurch, Hants.

M. JULES SIMON.

The new Prime Minister of the French Republic, chosen by the President, Marshal MacMahon, to put an end to the perilous crisis of that Government in the middle of December, is a man of thorough Liberal principles, and a philosophical advocate of social reforms, but not the enthusiastic champion of any Utopian democratic schemes. He has been a distinguished Professor in the University of Paris, and is the author of several treatises upon moral philosophy, the condition of the labouring classes, and political science. He told the Chambers in his short and well-poised address on assuming office, that although his Ministry had no programme, yet he was profoundly Republican, but at the same time profoundly Conservative; that he had a profound respect for religion, yet one equally profound for liberty of conscience. These were *beaux sentiments*, suited to both sides of the Chamber, and they elicited cheers alternately from each party. But whatever M. Jules Simon may be, he is not a dangerous man, in a political sense. Violent measures are no part of his character, which inclines him more to be complaisant to all parties than to incur the sharp hostility of any. Still, it will be difficult, even for a man of his temperament, to maintain his equilibrium under the influences to which he will be subject, and with which he will have to reckon. There is a caricature exhibiting just now on the boulevards, in which M. Thiers, M. Gambetta, and M. Jules Simon are represented, during the late crisis, pulling with all their might at the strings behind the scenes; the common object, for the moment, of the two former being to force their colleague, or their instrument, M. Jules Simon, upon the unwilling acceptance of the Marshal-President of the Republic. "For the moment" the object was common, and the success has been complete. But how long will the understanding last? And how long will the "profound Republican" and the "profound Conservative" be able to turn the balance between the exigencies, which, in the views of some at least of his supporters, those two phases of opinion exact? The portrait of M. Jules Simon is from a photograph by Pierre Petit, of Paris.

THE PANTOMIMES AT DRURY-LANE AND COVENT-GARDEN.

We present this week Illustrations of the Pantomimes at Drury-Lane and Covent-Garden, both of which have been produced on a scale of splendour which has ensured the approbation of exceptionally large audiences. Neither of the pictures represents a sensible portion of the story of either production, and prefers to the general action some comic scenes which are supplied rather by the artistes engaged than by the dramatist. In the group presented of the Drury-Lane pantomimists, the most distinguishable figure is that of Mr. Frederick Vokes, whose legs fly over the heads of his companions, and are a perpetual surprise to the audience. His sisters are also distinctively engaged, pirouetting in the most marvellous manner, suggesting all manner of ideas to the excited spectator. Here, moreover, is the wonderful donkey, but in a state of quiescence which he seldom is, indeed, in the actual representation itself. We may suppose him admiring the superior agility of his owners and taking an interest in their proceedings. So much for the lively episode in "The Forty Thieves," supplied by this clever family. In like manner, the tale of "Robinson Crusoe" is varied and enriched by the introduction of the savages discovered on the island, and who are so cleverly depicted by Mr. Ted Lauri, Mr. J. H. Doughty, and Mr. J. H. Rogers. No description of this is contained in the book of the play, which refers the reader for information to "the principal performers," who can be seen "every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday morning, and every evening, until further notice." We are compelled to imitate the example of the writer of the libretto, simply stating that our Picture gives only a slight symbol of the great variety of business composing the scene to which it belongs. The whole is full of bizarre incident, merely indicated by the group before us, who surprise and entertain poor Crusoe, and thus relieve the solitude of his island hut. The spectator will be more amused even than the celebrated hero of the wild scene which our Artist has endeavoured to suggest, leaving the greater portion of necessity to the imagination of the reader.

The annual meeting of the members of the Birmingham and Midland Institute was held, on Monday night, in the lecture theatre; Mr. J. Thackray Bunce, vice-president, in the chair.

Colonel Steble, the late Mayor of Liverpool, has offered to present to the town a fountain of the value of £1000, to be placed opposite the Art Gallery and the Picton Reading-Room.

It was reported, last week, that a crack had been discovered in the inner tube of the 81-ton gun; but careful subsequent investigation has shown that the flaw is unimportant.

Three of the crew of a Whitby life-boat were drowned, on Wednesday, by the capsizing of their boat while they were rendering aid to a stranded ship.

The income of the National Bible Society of Scotland last year amounted to nearly £14,000; and by its agencies upwards of 100,000 complete copies, or parts of copies, of the Scriptures were put in circulation.

The prizes connected with the Romsey district of the Labourers' Encouragement Association were distributed, on Wednesday, in the Corn Exchange of that town. Lord Shaftesbury presided, and there were present many of the gentry of the neighbourhood, including Mr. Cowper-Temple and the Hon. Ralph Dutton. The prizes were distributed by Mr. Cowper-Temple, and afterwards the prizeholders were addressed by Lord Shaftesbury. He counselled them to be economical and prudent, and they would not be obliged when sickness came upon them to depend upon charity for help.

In presenting the prizes to the successful students at the Dover School of Art, on Wednesday, Earl Granville addressed himself to a refutation of the Rev. Mark Patteson's opinion that taste in art is decaying in this country. As proofs that taste is improving, the noble Earl pointed to our churches, country houses, manufactorys, neediwork, children's books, and bouquet arranging, as so many indications that much positive progress has been made within the last thirty years.—At the annual meeting of the Dover Hospital, on Wednesday, a new wing was opened by Earl Granville, who presided. There being a deficiency of £200 in meeting the cost of the enlargement, Mr. Freshfield, M.P., gave £100, and the other £100 was guaranteed in the room.



M. JULES SIMON, THE NEW PRIME MINISTER OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.



CARRYING PASSENGERS AT NINE-ELMS-LANE.

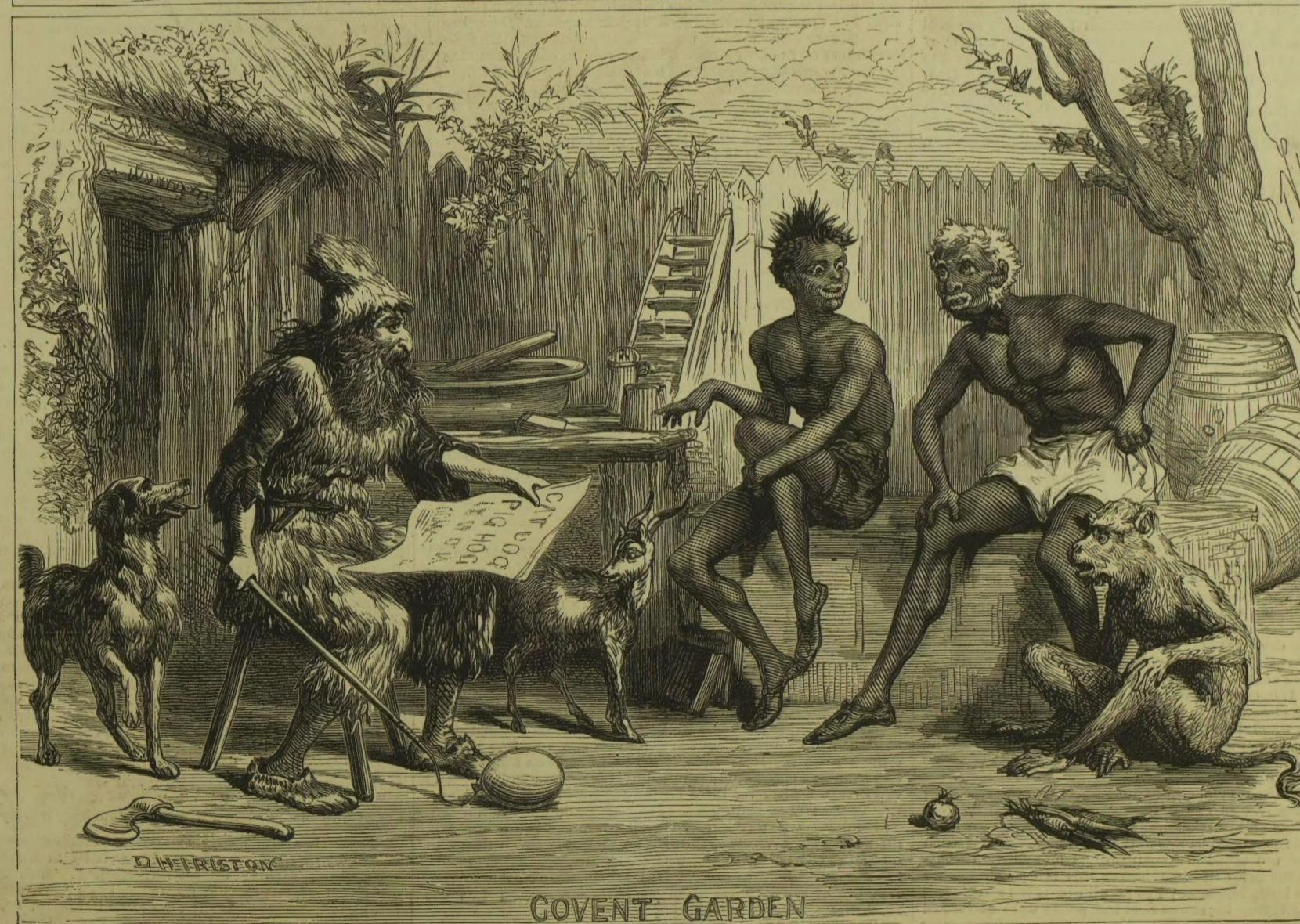


A ROOM IN SOUTHAMPTON-STREET, NINE ELMS.

THE TIDAL OVERFLOW OF THE THAMES.



DRURY LANE



COVENT GARDEN

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the European Powers at Constantinople has been almost brought to a dead-lock by the steadfast refusal of Turkey, in the sittings held each day since our last week's report, to assent to the joint resolutions of Great Britain and Russia and the other Foreign Powers. Thursday last was expected to be the crisis of this momentous diplomatic conflict; but it was impossible at the time of our going to press with the sheet now before our readers to say what would be the immediate result of that day's sitting. It was rumoured that the Turkish Government would endeavour to meet the proposals of the Conference with a new project based on Count Andrassy's Note for the pacification of Bosnia and the Herzegovina a twelvemonth ago. The Ministers of the Sultan, represented by Safet Pasha, object to the appointment of an International Commission, for one year, to superintend the execution of the proposed reforms; and they also resist the employment even of a very small number of foreign troops, either to serve as a nucleus for the creation of a native armed police force, consisting equally of Christian and Mussulman subjects of Turkey, or to serve as a body-guard for the International Commission visiting the different provinces of the Empire. The leading part in advocating the resolutions already sanctioned by the Foreign Powers, but disputed by Turkey, has latterly been sustained by Count Corti, the Italian Special Envoy; while General Ignatieff, the Russian Ambassador, has preserved an attitude of studied moderation, and Lord Salisbury has warmly supported those resolutions, urging the Sultan, in a spirit of friendly candour, not to oppose the will of united Europe. The German Ambassador seems to have displayed a certain degree of indifference, at least of coolness, which has led some French politicians to accuse Prince Bismarck of wishing to provoke a European war. The French Envoy Extraordinary, Count Chaudordy, is reported to have said that Turkey, in his opinion, would be justified in her refusal of the measures proposed by the Conference. But the general disposition of the foreign members of the Conference is still most conciliatory, and the Russian Government shows a less warlike inclination than before.

General Ignatieff is stated to have recently suggested that the reforms proposed by the Powers should be extended to Macedonia, Epirus, and Thessaly. The British Plenipotentiary is understood to have replied that such a proposal did not come within the scope of his instructions.

It was stated a few days since that Roumania had withdrawn her allegiance from the Porte on account of an article in the new Turkish Constitution infringing her rights. This statement is now, however, modified. Roumania, it appears, has merely protested against the article in question, and declared that were any attempt made to enforce it, she should consider herself released from her vassalage to the Porte. We at the same time learn that the attempt is not likely to be made. The Turkish Government has officially declared that the provisions of the Constitution are not meant to apply to the Principality, the rights of which are guaranteed by international treaties. In a late sitting of the Roumanian Senate a motion was carried affirming the determination of the House to maintain all the rights of the country as guaranteed by the Treaty of Paris, and calling upon the Government to act in this sense.

Prince Milan of Servia has withdrawn his troops from the Bosnian frontier, having received an intimation from St. Petersburg that he must renounce his pretensions to that province. The action of Austria, on account of which this withdrawal is thought to have taken place, will also be aroused by the threatened expulsion of the Jews from Semendria.

In Bulgaria, it is said, the Christian inhabitants are still plundered and ill-treated by the Turks; while the author of some of the worst massacres, Chefket Pasha, acquitted by the Court of Philippopolis, has come back triumphantly to Constantinople. Proofs of his wilful murder of many inoffensive persons, even independently of any orders he may have received by the Government, could easily be brought against him in any mixed or international court of law free from intimidation.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Jan. 11.

After a brief New-Year's holiday, the Legislature has again assembled, and the Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier and M. Grévy have been re-elected Presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The message which was expected from Marshal MacMahon has not been forthcoming, the Government considering that the communication of a formal Ministerial programme is unnecessary after the emphatic declarations made by M. Jules Simon on taking office. These declarations have been followed by the removal of ten of the most obnoxious préfets, and in a few days fresh decrees will appear eliminating the Bonapartist element from other branches of the public service. The Marshal, who has recently been shooting at Sully-sur-Loire with the Count de Bethune, has been also persuaded, it is said, to sacrifice Admiral Fourichon, the Minister of Marine, whom the Republican party propose to replace by Admiral Pothau or Admiral Jauréquiberry. The Chief of the State appears to have completely reconciled himself to the situation, and the hopes which the anti-Republican party founded on his reported aversion for M. Jules Simon are now scarcely likely to be realised.

Billoir, the man who has been under arrest for some weeks past on suspicion of being the murderer of the woman Le Manach the discovery of whose mutilated remains in the Seine caused such a profound sensation in Paris, has at length made a partial confession of his guilt. He pretends that one evening, at the commencement of November, the deceased returned home intoxicated, and during a quarrel which ensued broke a glass which he greatly prized. Losing all control over himself, he gave her a kick as she stooped down to pick up the fragments. She fell to the ground insensible, and all his efforts to restore her to animation proved unsuccessful. He spent the night with the corpse, and it was only late on the following day that he resolved to cut up the body and throw it into the Seine. He strenuously endeavoured to impress upon the Juge d'Instruction that the crime was unpremeditated, and that when he kicked the unfortunate woman he had no intention whatever of causing her death. Whether this is true or not we shall perhaps learn hereafter; but at all events his confession, incomplete as it may be, shows that the police were correct in their surmises. The discovery of the culprit was beset with innumerable difficulties, and it is greatly to the credit of M. Jacob, the chef de la sûreté, that he should have succeeded in pouncing upon the right man.

A celebrity of the so-called "generation of July," Henri Monnier, author, actor, and artist, has passed away this week, at the ripe age of seventy-eight. As a caricaturist Monnier was the rival of Gavarni, and as a writer many of the types he portrayed were worthy of Balzac's pen. His most celebrated creation, "M. Joseph Prudhomme," the narrow-minded, egotistical, serio-comic bourgeois of the reign of Louis Philippe,

will certainly survive him, for since the time of Molière there has probably not been so humorous, and withal so truthful, a delineation of the middle class Frenchman. Monnier identified himself in a measure with this celebrated character, acting the part of Prudhomme in a play he wrote descriptive of his grandeur and decay, and which was performed at the Porte St. Martin 150 consecutive nights. Among Monnier's other works, especial attention may be called to "Le Roman chez la Portière" and his "Scènes de la Vie Intime." He was unconscious for three days prior to his death, and for some time back his faculties had been reduced to a low ebb. The funeral service, at the Church of St. Roch, was attended by numerous representatives of the literary, artistic, and theatrical schools of Paris.

M. Clement Duvernois—a clever journalist under the late Empire, who became the mouthpiece of Napoleon III., and worked his way into the last Ministry formed before the catastrophe of Sedan, and who under the Republic was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for certain financial escapades—is about to publish a history of the Second Empire, in which some curious revelations are looked for.

ITALY.

The Roman correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphs that Menelik, King of Shoa, has written a letter to King Victor Emmanuel acknowledging the gifts sent to him through the Marquis Antinori, and promising protection to the Italian exploring expedition while in his dominions, also volunteering assistance on the way to the equatorial lakes.

Count Luigi Mastai, the nephew of the Pope, died on Monday afternoon at San Benedetto, near Sinigaglia, whither he had gone in quest of health. The Count, who was born in 1814, was the son of the Pope's brother Gabriel, and was married to one of the Princesses del Drago.

The Pope has received an address from some pilgrims, to whom he made a speech, asserting that Italy was not so prosperous now as she was before her unity.

Sir A. Paget, the British Ambassador at Rome, has fallen from his horse while hunting and dislocated one of his wrists.

Professor Palmieri, writing from the Observatory on Mount Vesuvius, says that for the last two days the instruments have shown evident signs of agitation. The smoke from the mountain is issuing with greater force and increased volume.

SPAIN.

The session of the Cortes closed yesterday week, the bill relating to the re-establishment of constitutional guarantees having been passed without any amendment. There was no Speech from the Throne, but Señor Canovas del Castillo read a Royal decree proroguing the Chamber.

It is stated that the Minister at Pekin has broken off diplomatic relations with the Chinese Government, and that a fleet has, in consequence, been ordered to China.

GERMANY.

The general election for the new Imperial Parliament was held, on Wednesday, throughout Germany.

This year's German squadron of evolution, which is to begin practice on May 7, will be composed of the ironclad frigates Kaiser, Deutschland, Preussen, and the aviso Falk.

AMERICA.

Subsequently to a Cabinet Council at Washington, on Tuesday, orders were sent to the Federal commander at New Orleans to preserve peace without recognising either the Democratic or the Republican Governor. The Republican Governor and the Legislature of New Orleans are blockaded by the Democratic militia in the State House; but no bloodshed has occurred. Both the Republican and Democratic Legislatures have elected United States senators. The rival Governors of Louisiana were inaugurated in office, on Monday, by their respective partisans. No disturbance occurred. On Sunday Democratic mass meetings were held at Washington, Richmond, and several northern towns, when resolutions were passed that the counting of the presidential electoral roll lay with both Houses of Congress, and that the President of the Senate had no power in the matter.

The Committee of the House of Representatives appointed to examine the question of the Presidential electoral returns has decided that the President of the Senate has no power in the matter, and that the counting of the returns can only be made in the manner approved by the House, whose authority in this respect is equal to that of the Senate.

President Grant has sent to the European Governments a report urging the desirability of constructing an inter-oceanic canal across the Isthmus of Panama by the Nicaragua route.

President Grant is said to have expressed an opinion that the United States should retain the nine millions of dollars, the balance of the Geneva award after paying all the direct claims. This surplus, he thought, should be devoted to the restoration of the American mercantile marine. The original award of 15,500,000 dols. was invested in American Five per Cents, and the interest increased it to about 18,500,000.

There were 22,408 applications at the United States Patent Office for grants of patents in the year ending Sept. 30, 1876, and the number issued in the year (including reissues and designs) was 15,911, being 1681 more than in the preceding year. There were also 1029 trade marks and 499 labels registered in the year 1875-6.

Mr. Bennett, the proprietor of the *New York Herald*, fought a duel, on Monday, in the State of Delaware with Mr. Frederick May. Neither combatant was wounded.

Mr. Vanderbilt, who is better known as Commodore Vanderbilt, is dead.

The American journals contain details of the disastrous accident on the Lake Shore Railway on the 29th ult. Some particulars will be found at page 46.

INDIA.

As a penultimate scene in the Delhi fête there was, on Thursday night, Jan. 4, a display of fireworks, witnessed by an immense concourse, on the plain between the fort and the Jumna Musjid. It is understood to have been the "largest and grandest spectacle of the kind ever seen in India." The chief feature was a set piece having reference to the proclamation of the Queen as Empress of India. Delhi was illuminated. The final scene was a grand review on the following day, attended by the Viceroy, the civil and military authorities, and a number of native Princes, with their retinues. All the troops assembled at Delhi, numbering 20,000 men, were on the ground. A salute of artillery was fired at sunset, and with this the festivities terminated.

The Punjab College has been raised to the status of a University, and is empowered to grant degrees.

The Canadian Government has issued orders that no trains are to be run on Sundays, except in cases of great emergency, of which the authorities are to be the judge.

We learn by telegraph that the English cricket team in Australia played a drawn match with the Ballarat eleven on Thursday week, and that on Monday last they played the Geelong eleven, winning easily.

Mohammedans settled in the Russian Caucasus are reported to be emigrating in great numbers into Turkey.

The Court of Aix has set aside a lady's will because she was under the influence of a belief in Spiritualism.

At the general meeting of the Suez Canal Company, held in Paris on Wednesday, the convention with the maritime Powers was sanctioned, by which the company undertakes to expend one million francs annually for thirty years on the improvement of the canal.

The results of the Census of Paris have been published. The total population is 1,986,748 persons. In 1872 it was 1,852,792 persons. The increase has been chiefly, as was to be expected, in the outlying arrondissements, and is strongest in Popincourt, Montmartre, Batignolles, Monceaux, and Passy.

Intelligence from Mexico reached New York, on Monday, to the effect that five more States have declared in favour of Porfirio Diaz, in whose absence General Mendez is acting as President; and that several regiments have deserted from Iglesias.

It is officially announced in the *Gazette* that the Queen has sanctioned the appointment of Mr. William Wellington Cairns (now Governor of Queensland) to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of South Australia and its dependencies; and of Sir Arthur Edward Kennedy (now Governor of Hong-Kong) to be Governor of Queensland.

A special telegram to the *Daily News* from Alexandria says that, the contractors for the harbour works not having been paid a large sum due, Sir George Elliot has attached the money remitted to England for the January coupons. By the same means we learn that the Post Office, Telegraph Office, and other buildings at Cairo have been destroyed by fire. The documents were saved, and no lives were lost.

The Cape mail, which arrived at Plymouth on Sunday, brings news from the Transvaal that a field cornet named Erasmus, with a party, attacked some friendly natives, killing about forty of them; it is added that others not of the party protested against this conduct. Sir T. Shepstone was on his way to the Transvaal. The appointment of Colonel Eustace as Resident with Kreli had been well received by the native chiefs and people. Kreli had, however, postponed the consideration of the boundary question.

Letters from Zanzibar, dated the 11th ult., report everything quiet there and on the mainland. An Arab slaver had shown itself near the island of Pemba, and had fired on one of our cruisers' boats, slightly wounding four men. Legitimate trade was on the increase, and promised further extension. His Highness the Sultan, having been made acquainted with the African scheme under the presidency of his Majesty the King of the Belgians, and also with the meeting held at Glasgow about two months ago for promoting commercial enterprise and civilisation on the African continent, has written to England expressing his cordial approval of the design and stating that he will afford the agents authorised to carry it out every assistance in his power. He is also causing inquiries to be made as to the best point on the coast of the mainland, within his own territories, for making a highway to the inland lake district.

THE MAGAZINES.

"Erema" remains the leading feature of the *Cornhill*, and a very attractive feature too, replete with the interest of character as well as of incident, and thoughtful as well as stirring writing. From this highly-developed stage of the novel it is suggestive to look back, as the writer of an excellent paper on Spanish *picaresque* fiction invites us to do, to the novel in its early and by no means precocious immaturity. It is, nevertheless, easy to show that the rich complication of modern fiction exists in such compositions as "Guzman de Alfarache," rude and artless as they appear in the evolution of feeling from incident; and we are quite prepared to accept the writer's suggestion that stories of the "Guy Livingstone" class indicate reversion to a primitive type. "From Stratford to London" is a meritorious attempt to reproduce the aspect of English highway travel in Shakespeare's day; and "Heroes and Valets" embodies an emphatic and, unfortunately, a seasonable protest against recent invasions of the sanctity of private life by low-class newspapers. "Dual Consciousness" is an investigation of the perplexing question whether the brain is actually double, illustrated by some well-authenticated instances of abnormal cerebral states in which the patient seems to have alternately led two lives, forgetting while in one condition what he had acted or thought in the other.

The inexhaustible Mrs. Oliphant commences a new fiction in *Macmillan*, and it must be said displays in "Young Musgrave" no declension from the very respectable level of merit which she has now for so long maintained. There is none of the power exhibited in the first chapters of her romance in the *Cornhill*, but neither is there any such subsequent lapse into anything lower than the cheerful, winning cleverness which it seems ungracious to style mediocrity. In a forcible essay, Mr. Goldwin Smith considers the probable effect of the acceptance of the doctrine of evolution and its corollaries upon the average morality of mankind. There is much that well deserves attention in Mr. Smith's remarks; while it may be thought that he overlooks the new and potent reinforcement contributed by the discovery of the hereditary transmission of character. Such a motive, it may be said, would have no influence on inferior samples of human nature; but neither would any other, short of the legal and social restraints which are not likely to be impaired by any progress of scientific discovery. Dr. Petermann, in a letter on "The Eastern Polar Basin," addressed to the President of the Royal Geographical Society, volunteers a handsome certificate to Sir George Nares. Mr. T. Hughes answers Mr. Crosskey on the subject of national education. Neither party to the controversy seems to have grasped the principle that the question is rather municipal than Imperial; that, subject to certain obvious conditions, each district has a moral right to educate its children as it thinks best. "Two Sonnets by Two Sisters" are full of touching beauty.

Fraser has one very remarkable contribution—the autobiography of a modern Icelander, written in English, pretty and piquant, with its quaint imperfection. The narrative is also a very interesting one: the history of an honest, industrious, intelligent, ingenious man; admirable in his struggle with the conditions of a hard and unprosperous lot. It also conveys a vivid picture of the inclemency of the Icelandic climate, even in favourable circumstances, and, though not written or published with that end in view, should do much to stimulate compassion for the people in their present heavy trials. A singular contrast is afforded by another paper describing with great picturesqueness the rich strips of tropical cultivation in the watered ravines which intersect the arid table-land of Southern India. The plateau itself is sufficiently wild and barren, and dotted with ancient sepulchres, resembling Druidical cromlechs. There are also interesting papers on

The trade of the Austrian Empire, on La Fontaine, and on the "tree of existence" of Teutonic and Scandinavian mythology.

"The Shadow of the Door" is a welcome accession to the already long and brilliant series of "Tales from Blackwood." The scene is laid in America; the subject is a cunning and ruthless murder; and it is impossible not to admire the art by which the criminal, without a single extenuating circumstance in his crime, is yet kept sufficiently within the pale of human sympathy for the novelist's purpose. By far the most interesting of the miscellaneous articles is an admirable criticism on George Sand, distinguished by true insight and generous sympathy. The number is concluded by a review of the political prospects of the new year, from which we learn, at any rate, that her Majesty's Ministers may alter their foreign policy as often as they like without the slightest fear of appearing inconsistent in the eyes of *Blackwood*.

Mr. Chamberlain's speech at Birmingham has already familiarised the public with the keen criticism on the Gothenburg system of making public-houses over to the municipality conveyed in Mr. Lowe's article in the *Fortnightly Review*. Without sympathising with Mr. Lowe's cynical tone, we must say that his arguments against Mr. Chamberlain's proposal, on the ground of the facilities it would offer to jobbery and undue political influence, appear to us absolutely unanswerable. The remedy would be far worse than the disease. Mr. Chamberlain, however, appears to advantage in a powerful and logical plea for gratuitous primary instruction; and the cause of small landowners is no less ably supported by Mr. Shaw Lefevre. Mr. A. C. Lyall contributes an able and learned paper on the formation of clans in India, and the transition from clanship into caste under the influence of religious ideas. He thinks that symptoms may be discerned of the decay of caste prejudice, and a reaction in the direction of the religious mysticism which regards all external distinctions as immaterial. Sir H. Havelock is so deeply impressed with the importance of Constantinople to England, that one wonders to find him contemplating the arrival of a Russian army under its walls as a desirable contingency, in any case.

The *Contemporary Review* opens with an article on "Modern Atheism: its attitude towards Morality" full beyond all precedent of the "simply," "surely," "quite clear," and the like phrases which betray the writer's instinctive misgiving that his argument is neither simple, clear, nor sure. Professor Clifford, from the opposite point of view, reads believers a lecture on the exceeding sinfulness of belief in certain cases; which is probably intended seriously by the writer, but which will be received by the audience as a *mawaise plaisanterie*. By far the most important contribution to the number is Mr. Rhys David's analysis of the vexed problem of the Buddhist Nirvana. In Mr. David's opinion Nirvana does not, as usually understood, denote annihilation, but a holy and blessed state in the present life; involving, however, exemption from re-birth, and consequently implying the cessation of existence. Mr. Edwards' paper on friendly societies is also very valuable; and Sir A. Musgrave's heresies on free trade and protection deserve attention as a sample of the political economy which finds favour in Australia.

There is little worthy of note in this month's *Atlantic Monthly*, except pretty pieces of verse by Longfellow and Russell Lowell; nor anything in *The Month*, save the continuation of the biography of Columbus and a history of the Greek Revolution. "The Captain's Last Love," in *Belgravia*, is a striking story, and "Finding His Level" an amusing one. "An Amateur Assassin" has nothing to do with murder, but is a lively record of the experience of a hashish-eater. The *Argosy* and *Tinsley's* are fairly readable, but contain no matter of special mark.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* inaugurates the new year with a story of unusual promise by Mr. Justin MacCarthy. "Miss Misanthrope" is a young lady who, in spite of her unpossessing designation, captivates the reader's sympathy by her genuine love of liberty and the intrepidity with which she launches forth upon the great world of London. The other moiety of the plot is at present less interesting, but in every passage we have occasion to admire Mr. MacCarthy's consummate skill and literary practice. "Personal Adventures in War Time," understood to be from the pen of Colonel Valentine Baker, illustrate the catastrophe of the French army at Sedan. Mr. Thornbury's sketch of Athens under King Otho was never worth printing, and is still less worth reprinting. Dr. Hueffer's interesting essay is rather a contribution to the study of Prince Bismarck's personal character than of his "literary faculty," which seems nowise different from that of other strong men whose imperious despotism is tempered by a dash of humour of the grim sort. "Deep-Sea Exploration" is a highly interesting account of the problems in marine zoology solved or raised by the researches of the Challenger.

London Society also begins the New Year with a new serial story. "Proud Maisie" is in some sense a counterpart of "Miss Misanthrope," the leading motive being here again the longing for freedom and impatience of conventionalities which animates the accomplished young ladies of the period quite as powerfully as their male relatives. Maisie is a most captivating heroine, and her adventures are so far narrated with a most unusual degree of gaiety and sprightliness. The other contents of the magazine are also very entertaining.

We have further to acknowledge Good Words, Cassell's Magazine, Aunt Judy, the New Monthly, the Churchman's Monthly, Potter's American Monthly, Golden Hours, the Monthly Packet, and the Victoria Magazine.

The Admiralty will appoint a Committee, under the presidency of Sir James Hope, to inquire into the outbreak of scurvy in the Arctic Expedition.

The following are the names of the committee appointed by the Admiralty to inquire into the cause of the outbreak of scurvy in the recent Arctic Expedition:—Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B. (president), Admiral Sir R. Collinson, K.C.B., Vice-Admiral E. A. Inglefield, C.B., Dr. James Donnet (Inspector of Hospitals, R.N.), and Dr. Fraser, F.R.S.E. Mr. Vansittart Neale has been appointed secretary.—The relics of the Polar Expedition, which were brought to England by Sir George Nares, have been forwarded by the Foreign Office to the United States Government.

The annual report of the Dover National Sailors' Home shows that the heavy gales of last winter brought many destitute crews to this refuge. A curious fact is mentioned with regard to eight distressed sailors who were at the Home on one recent occasion; they were all of different nations—there being a Welshman, an Englishman, a Norwegian, an Austrian, an American, a Russian Fin, a Spaniard, and an Italian. They could not understand each other; but they all knew the signal for breakfast, dinner, and supper. Since the home was established no less than 452 crews, consisting of 4194 men of various maritime nations, have been welcomed within it. They are lodged, boarded, clothed, and sent to their various destinations.

EXHIBITION OF WORKS BY OLD MASTERS AT BURLINGTON HOUSE.

For the eighth year has the Royal Academy made its welcome gathering of Old Masters, the continuance of which display amply attests the art-wealth of the private collections in this country, and the liberality with which such treasures are used for the public good and enjoyment. Though containing no one work of absorbing interest, this selection is marked by an unquestionable quality of tone, which, whilst sustaining the general character of these exhibitions, falls somewhat short of the exceptionally elevated standard attaching to one or two of the early collections seen in these rooms.

As from the schools of Italy and Flanders are mainly drawn the supplies of works for these exhibitions, so, in proportion as the one or the other shall preponderate, have we placed before us the lofty abstractions of the ideal, or the felicitous renderings of realistic nature. In the present instance the latter prevails; and as on the features of the Flemish school the principles of our own are mainly founded, the comparison evoked by the juxtaposition of the works of that school with those of our deceased masters becomes the more exciting. That the result is not unsatisfactory to our position as artists a survey of these galleries will show; and, notwithstanding that Reynolds, Gainsborough, and other high names among us have been seen to better effect than on the present occasion, and some entirely absent, the comparison between the "old" masters and our own "deceased" cannot be drawn to the prejudice of the latter.

In future memories of this collection will be associated the fine examples of Dutch and Flemish art, and the two names of Raeburn and Vincent. Of Sir Henry Raeburn, Limner to the King in Scotland, 1823, little is heard on this side the Tweed, for, though a full member of the English Academy, he painted but few pictures from English sitters, visiting London but thrice in his life; hence the rarity in this country, except among Scottish families, of those examples of his powerful brush by which he is so well known in the northern capital.

Not the least of the services rendered to art by the Royal Academy is the judicious gathering under one roof a sufficient number of the works of some one artist, so as to afford the opportunity for that comparison and analysis of his principles and style essential to the due estimate of his power and rank. For such purpose the portrait works of Raeburn as here seen, though not exceeding twelve in number, are, happily, so selected as to embrace and illustrate the leading elements of his style, manner, and mode of work, and in his powerful sense of individuality, perception of character, breadth of treatment, vigorous precision of handling, and fidelity to local detail, as seen in the pictures here placed before us, are comprised qualities that render the best heads of this artist worthy of rank with those of Reynolds. That the first president of the English school distances the Scottish painter in elegance and variety is beyond doubt; but it is very questionable if, for masculine vigour of brush work and breadth, the hardy Northerner does not surpass the more courtly occupant of the English presidential chair.

In respect of the Flemish and Dutch pictures, for which this exhibition is notable, the Academy have been privileged by her Majesty in the loan of several works from the Royal Collection. Other subjects have likewise been graciously lent by the Queen, to the number of eleven.

The selection of works by deceased British artists extend over a list of thirty names, embracing many of world-wide and increasing fame, together with others who, never having risen above the dull level of mediocrity, are now rapidly losing the slender tenure they once held on public interest. Largely contributing to the contents of Gallery No. 1, they attract not only by force of absolute merit, but from the comparison and contrast there offered between them and the product of other schools, and still more from associations identified with the circumstances of their execution. Representative works like Turner's "Lake of Geneva" (8), Constable's "Dedham Vale" (34), Vincent's "Greenwich Hospital" (12), and Wilson's "Cicero's Villa" (16), reflect much of the embodied life work and its surroundings of their respective authors, and in such opportunity as here afforded of viewing them side by side, we learn to recognise the idiosyncracy of their producers, and read the handwriting of each in his art. Hence the great value of these collections as a means of art-education. A painter is never so well understood as when in parallel or contrast with his fellows—a position most favourable for our acquiring a knowledge either of the morale or technique of the artist.

Exquisite in certain elements of atmospheric effect, though changed in parts by oil-stain and discoloration, Turner's "Lake of Geneva" is highly characteristic of the period of its production, though marred in topographic value by the false proportions of the pine-trees on the foreground in their relation to the rest of the picture. In giving height to the mountains he dwarfed the trees for the sake of contrast. How far the end justifies the means is a question in art as in ethics. In close proximity to Turner's canvas is a work certain of welcome greeting. George Vincent, of the Norwich band of painters, a pupil of old John Crome, in painting "Greenwich Hospital," enlists our sympathies by his subject and commands our admiration by his power. The Sailors' Home, of other days, has long been a favourite theme with English painters; and, when viewed in connection with its picturesque surroundings of craft and river, is fully worthy, as seen in the work before us, of the best resources of landscape art. At some distance in the picture the building is seen through a luminous atmosphere enveloping grandly drawn cloud forms, while the effulgent gleams of the noon-day sun, coloured to richness by the varying density of the air they penetrate, convert the water immediately beneath into a sheet of shimmering light. Boats and other incidents of the ever-varying traffic on this highway of the Thames are arranged with masterly power of composition and effect, completing a picture of a very high order, but from which we turn with regret and pity at the thought that but two or three others, somewhat similar in type, make up the life work of their gifted but unfortunate author. Pleasant memories arise before John Constable's "Dedham Vale," a spot he so well loved and often painted. Never is he seen so much at ease as in his transcripts of these truly English scenes of his early life, and rarely in greater power than in this, one of his most complete efforts. On an upright canvas of about 5 ft. high he spreads a glowing picture, full of light and freshness, of a locality supplying to him material for some of his most important and best-known works. Seen from a grassy height surmounted by a picturesque group of trees, the winding stream, under a showery sky, gleams in its course through meadow and hamlet on to the purple distance far away. Villages nestle on its banks, the church tower peeps from among some neighbouring trees, and his father's mill, where he himself had worked, stands in the middle of the canvas, the whole invested with a feeling of quiet and repose, typifying the peaceful disposition of the man. In texture and effect the work is firm and rich, and, though in its execution the palette knife has been freely used, as was common with Constable at this date, it is free from the eccentricities he frequently practised with that instrument at a later period. The works of Wilson, as in numbers

16 and 40, though interesting as marking the transition from the conventionalisms of their time to a later and more enlarged study of nature, have but little to recommend them when judged by a healthy standard of landscape art, beyond the remarkable facility in executive power acquired by the practice of the large number of canvases that passed from his easel.

Grand in impressive power and academic style, Hilton's fine altar-piece, "Christ Crowned with Thorns" (63), stands alone among the British contributions of the year. Should Vandyke's large work, in Gallery No. 3, be placed in rivalry against it, the verdict will, we think, be in favour of Hilton. Unfortunately for the higher walks of art, no demand for such work now exists, and even in the time of its production little more encouragement was offered. In the face of such circumstances we can only the more admire the energy by which the artist carried such an undertaking to completion. It was, however, bought for £1000, in 1828, by the British Institution, a body of gentlemen who performed many generous acts to striving artists in those days, and by whom it was presented to St. Peter's Church, Pimlico. At the destruction of this building, by fire, in 1838, it was saved by being cut from its frame. Reynolds, Gainsborough, and Romney are seen in average power, the last rather to disadvantage by contrast with his more robust competitors. Gainsborough's fondness for a mass of colour of sufficient quantity to give a title to the work, as in the "Blue Boy," may be seen in the "Portrait of the Marquis of Donegall" (23), by the use of a green dress; in that of "The Fifth Duke of Hamilton" (94), red is chosen for a similar purpose; whilst in (123) "Anne, Marchioness of Donegall" supplies the subject for a study in pale blue. Of this artist nineteen works are here shown, of which the portrait of Johan Christian Fisscher (22), the hautboy-player, is in many respects the most remarkable. Gainsborough was a musician as well as a painter, and gave his daughter in marriage to the original of this picture, in the execution of which, viewed by the evidence of the work itself, he bestowed the greatest care. Other noticeable works by this painter are 104, 225, and 69, a small full-length of Thomas Sandby, R.A., and his wife.

Sir Joshua's twenty-one canvasses naturally include varying degrees of power; but among the valuable contributions of Lord Methuen are several showing the painter at his best, whether in the simplicity of childhood, the charm of feminine grace, or the dignity of manly vigour. The colour of "Surgeon Percival Pott" (221) points to his study of Titian, as others exhibit to what extent he was held enthralled by the magic of Rembrandt. His "Nelly O'Brien" is charming in its aspect of winning beauty, as the head of Dr. Burney (116) by its vivacity and life. The portrait of himself (210) and Burke (207) have an interest of daily increasing extent. Lawrence in 7, or in the head of Benjamin West (255) is not seen to advantage by contrast with the more vigorous portraiture around. His picture of John Abernethy (7), placed immediately over Raeburn's head of "Mr. Wardrop" (9), and in close proximity also to that of William Broadwood (13), suffers by the comparison. Still finer, by Raeburn, is "John Pitcairn, Esq." (251)—a head which, for lifelike aspect, breadth of modelling, and purity of local colour, is unsurpassed in the exhibition. Of female heads by Raeburn there are three, all especially commendable; but the sweet maternal aspect of the painter's wife (47) tells of her gentle heart and the home she brightened. The painter's old friend, John Clerk, Lord Eldin (15), supplies another admirable work; and the portrait (full length) of Dr. Spens (268), in the costume of the Royal Archers, shows the artist knew how to draw a good bow.

Entering Room No. 2, we are at once arrested by Rubens's powerfully-brilliant sketch of "Cymon and Iphigenia" (45), wherein all the voluptuousness of Boccaccio's story is heightened by the masterly drawing and colour of the great Fleming. Rarely is it so small a work of Rubens is wrought to such high completion, its undoubted authorship contrasting strikingly with a much larger example of very equivocal ascription. Further on is a widely-different example of this painter, in Lord Methuen's "Wolf-Hunt" (55); and in the "Portrait of a Gentleman" (65) is seen a head vividly recalling the manner of Vandyke's treatment of the "Gevartius" in the National Gallery. The post of honour in the great Room No. 3 is occupied by Lord Darnley's large Rubens, "Queen Tomyris with the Head of Cyrus" (99), a grand gallery picture, well calculated to display the wealth of art its author has lavished upon it. In the "Virgin and Child" (105), also by Rubens, may be seen the influence of surrounding nature on that master in the face of the Virgin—purely Flemish, and one with which we are familiar in his works—doubtless the portrait of his model, and uninfluenced by any attempt at idealisation. Nothing could be more exquisite than certain passages of colour in this work—most notably so the right hand of the Virgin as placed on the side of the Infant Saviour, which figure, though modelled and coloured with the utmost charm, is not divine.

From Rubens to Vandyke the transition seems easy, notwithstanding the distance between the respective genius of each. Power is stamped in every touch of the one, as refinement marks the work of the other. In the "Allegorical Subject" (284), by Rubens, the impetuous dash of brush is as far beyond the reach of Vandyke as the gentle tenderness of "Henrietta Maria" (100) is without the pale of the sterner mood of his master. This last-named head is one of the most characteristic, as it is one of the finest, works of the painter—an opinion inapplicable to 98, where her Royal husband is represented in armour with the insignia of kingly power. No. 136 represents the same unfortunate Monarch in an equestrian subject of small size, contributed by her Majesty. In the "Henrietta Maria," as in Vandyke's best portraits, is to be seen a quality of flesh-tint rarely found in any other painter, conveying a sense of the delicately varied surface of the skin. Also, as in 138, "Portrait of James Stuart, Duke of Richmond and Lennox," the objects in Vandyke's pictures are seen as under the effect of open daylight; hence their clear, agreeable, silvery tone, as opposed to the coloured medium of Rembrandt. For such large scriptural subjects as "The Betrayal of Christ" (109), Vandyke scarcely proves his competency; the style of composition recalls that of his master, but the handling is his own. To much greater advantage is he seen in "Don Livio Odescalchi" (56), a highly characteristic head, and well deserving of attention; as are also the two representative works of Velasquez—a head of the painter (101), and that of his patron, "Don Gaspar de Gusman, Duque d'Olivares" (96). Here we pause for the present.

Lord Aberdare presented the prizes, on Monday evening, to the school children at Mountain Ash. During the course of an address on the subject of education he said it must be a source of great satisfaction to them, as it was to him, to live in times when the Government showed such a hearty desire to assist in the education of the people, and did so much for the masses in assisting them to overcome difficulties which surrounded poverty. It was a matter of the greatest importance to the nation that a clever boy, whether the son of a poor man or a rich man, should come to the front, so that the nation should have the benefit of his ability.



THE STORMS AND FLOODS: DESTRUCTION OF PART OF THE ADMIRALTY PIER, AT DOVER, ON NEW-YEAR'S DAY.

HEAVY RAINS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

The day appointed by the Sultan's Government for the proclamation of the new Constitution for the Turkish Empire was not favoured with auspicious weather. This ceremony, of which we gave an illustration last week, from the sketch by Mr. Melton Prior, our Special Artist, took place in front of the "Sublime Porte," in Stamboul, the Turkish capital, divided from Galata and Pera by the Golden Horn. The first meeting of the European diplomatic Conference was held on the same day at Pera. There was a crowd of people, whose curiosity was excited by these important events, passing to and fro upon the wooden drawbridge between Galata and the suburb of Stamboul. Having arrived at the other side, the crowd was brought to a sudden stoppage by a large quantity of water, evidently caused by the heavy rains of the night before, which entirely prevented those on the bridge getting to terra firma without walking through it, or being carried over it on men's backs. Such, at least, was the awkward plight of the foot passengers. As our Artist passed over in a carriage he could not resist the opportunity of sketching the scene. The Turkish ladies were carried over by men, loudly quarrelling for the fares, and striving who should earn the most money. In the left-hand corner, some one had thrown down a couple of planks; but this was not enough to enable the immense crowd to pass by. Some ladies picked up their petticoats and bravely walked through the flood.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Fishmongers' Company have made a grant of a hundred guineas to the building fund of Girton College.

At the meeting of the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Ferdinand Praeger delivered a lecture on Richard Wagner's Tetralogy.

A pigeon show held at the Crystal Palace this week numbered 1100 specimens, and the value of the birds was appraised by their owners at £10,000.

The following donations, among others, have been received by the treasurers of the Middlesex Hospital:—Lady Louisa Percy (for an hydraulic lift), £500; Messrs. Marshall and Snelgrove, £50.

The jubilee ball of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum will take place, at St. James's Hall, on Thursday, the 18th inst. This excellent institution consists of 170 houses, chapel, and chaplain's residence.

The annual New-Year's entertainment at the Metropolitan District Asylum for Imbecile Children, Lower Clapton, will be given on Thursday, the 25th inst. A novel feature in the proceedings is that the patients themselves take part in the entertainment.

At the first meeting of the London School Board, on Wednesday, after the Christmas recess, Sir Charles Reed, the chairman, read a letter from Mr. E. N. Buxton expressing regret at the paucity of scholarships to be given away this year and inclosing a cheque for £200 as a partial stop-gap.

The Victoria (Philosophical) Institute held the first meeting of the year in its new apartments on Monday—Mr. C. Brooke, F.R.S., in the chair. Several new members were elected. Papers were read on Materialistic Philosophy by Dr. J. M. Winn, and on the Forms of Causative Energy for Material Creation, by R. Laming, Esq. A discussion followed.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week (the first in January, 1877) was 82,956, of whom 38,331 were in workhouses, and 44,625 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in 1876, 1875, and 1874, these figures show a decrease of 3755, 15,164, and 22,839 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 832, of whom 628 were men, 168 women, and 36 children.

A conference of tea-dealers, scientific gentlemen, and others was held in London on Tuesday, when it was resolved that strong representations should be made to the Board of Trade and sanitary and other authorities, with a view to procure the destruction of all adulterated, faced, or otherwise spurious teas now in bond, and also to induce the Custom House authorities to use due vigilance to prevent such teas from being taken in bond at any future time.

The Council of the Society of Arts have made arrangements for the delivery of six lectures on various scientific subjects, which will take the place of the usual papers and discussions at six Wednesday-evening meetings during the session. The following gentlemen have consented to deliver lectures:—Sir John Lubbock, Bart.; Mr. E. J. Reed, M.P.; Professor W. K. Clifford, Professor Alexander Kennedy, Dr. B. W. Richardson, and Mr. James Baillie Hamilton.

The annual meeting of the Royal Dispensary for Diseases of the Ear, Frith-street, Soho, was held on Monday last. The Secretary read the report for the past year, which showed an increase in the number of patients to the number of one hundred, the total of those who had attended the dispensary during the past year being 3000. The death of the senior surgeon, Mr. William Harvey, was announced; and Dr. Urban Pritchard, F.R.C.S., was elected to fill the vacancy. Dr. Matheson was appointed assistant surgeon. The new premises at 66, Frith-street, have been permanently secured.

On Wednesday evening the prizes gained by the members of the 3rd Middlesex Artillery Volunteers were distributed in St. James's Hall by Lieutenant-Colonel Tolmé, in the absence of Lord Truro, who is the Colonel of the regiment. A ball followed. The programme contained twenty-four dances, the regimental band supplying the necessary music.—The regimental ball of the 9th Middlesex Volunteers was appointed to be held, last evening, at the St. James's Hall—dancing beginning shortly after nine, to the inspiring music of the Grenadier Guards band, conducted by Dan Godfrey.

The winter conversazione of friends and members of the Working Men's College, Great Ormond-street, Bloomsbury, was given on Thursday evening; the classes reopened for the ensuing term on the following night. In addition to the various classes already existing in mathematics, in languages ancient and modern, in history, and in physical science, new classes will be commenced in Spanish, Italian, French, chemistry, moral philosophy, arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. The drawing classes, we understand, have been recently placed under the superintendence of Mr. Arthur Hughes.

On Wednesday evening the Lady Mayoress gave a ball at the Mansion House in celebration of the coming of age of her sister, Miss Florence White. The guests, about five hundred in number, included the aldermen, sheriffs, and others in authority in the City, and the principal families in the county of Essex, where the Lord Mayor has long resided. Dancing, to the music of Gates's band, from Brighton, began about ten o'clock, the Lord Mayor opening the ball with Miss Adelaide White, of South Shields, the Lady Mayoress with Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Hadley, and Miss White with Mr. Sheriff East.

His Excellency the Netherlands Minister, Count van Bylandt, has consented to preside at the anniversary festival of the Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress, on Wednesday, March 21.

On Wednesday was laid the memorial-stone of a new chapel and school, in connection with Mr. T. B. Stephenson's good work, the Children's Home, Bonner-road, at the east end of London. Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Hadley presided.

The annual meeting of the committees of the Civil Service Life-Boat Fund was held, on Wednesday, at the General Post Office—Mr. W. H. Haines in the chair. A highly satisfactory balance-sheet was laid before the committee by Mr. Charles Turner, and the report of the proceedings of the fund for the year 1876 was read by the honorary secretary, Mr. Charles Dibdin. From this it appears that the name of Lord Hampton has been added to the list of vice-patrons, and that the number of subscribers for the past year has been 3268—an increase of 652 on that for 1875. The life-boats, Civil Service and Charles Dibdin, presented to the Royal National Life-Boat Institution by the fund and still fully supported by it, have up to the present time attended twenty wrecks, saved three vessels and the lives of ninety-eight persons.

The Christmas and New-Year's meetings of the Tonic-Sol-Fa College have been concluded at the Literary Institute, Aldersgate-street. The subjects discussed were chiefly of a practical kind, including voice training, the classification of voices in choirs, the elementary teaching of the pianoforte, the musical training of pupil teachers, conducting, and the various appliances of the tonic-sol-fa method. There were also lectures, illustrated by music, on the Musical Form of the Rondo, Minuet, and Sonata; on Wagner, and on the employment of harmony in congregational music. At the first meeting the corporate seal of the college was attached to the conveyance of a piece of land at Forest-gate, which has been bought for the purpose of erecting buildings, which are imperatively needed for the classes conducted by the college.

A public dinner was given, on Wednesday night, at Willis's Rooms, in support of the Borough Jewish Schools in Walworth-road. Baron Henry de Worms was in the chair. The schools contain 160 children, of whom the majority are girls—a fact due to the success and popularity of the schoolmistress, Miss Samuel. The school earned the favourable report of her Majesty's Inspector last year, and also that of Dr. Hermann Adler, who examined the children in Hebrew. The Government grant earned was £80, the school fees come to an equal amount, and the yearly subscriptions are £190. The total annual expenditure, however, is £650, and there is a periodical deficiency, which last night's appeal was designed for a time to supply. In the course of the evening the treasurer, Mr. A. Montefiore Sebag, announced that over £900 had been collected, about half of it by a past president of the committee, Mr. Barnett Meyers.

Seven hundred boys and girls belonging to the trainingships Chichester and Arethusa, farm schools, and London refuges, assembled at the Boys' Refuge, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, yesterday week, to have their annual New-Year's dinner and receive the prizes which had been awarded them. The inmates of the various institutions at the close of 1875 numbered 1597. In 1876, 483 boys had been placed in situations, and sent out as emigrants, or engaged in the Royal Navy and the merchant service; 64 girls had in 1876 been placed out at service, making a total of 547. Nearly 500 children had been gratuitously educated in the ragged, day, night, and Sunday schools, and in the winter months about 6000 dinners had been given to the ragged-school children. Admiral Sir W. King Hall presided at the distribution, after which he addressed the meeting.—The annual breakfast to above 800 destitute persons, in connection with Gray's-yard Ragged Church, was held on Sunday morning at the Princess Concert-Rooms, Castle-street, Oxford-street, at ten o'clock, when Mr. F. A. Bevan took the chair.

The annual meeting of the governors and subscribers to the British Orphan Asylum, Slough—which is under the patronage of the Queen and several members of the Royal family—was held, on Tuesday, at the Cannon-street Terminus Hotel, under the presidency of Mr. C. Woollston, J.P., the deputy-chairman. The report stated that the year 1877 was the jubilee year of the asylum, and the directors considered that the event ought to be marked by decided efforts to place upon a more permanent basis its usefulness. They recorded with gratitude that the health of the children had been very good during the past year. The report of the official examiners on their education continued to be favourable. Legacies had been received during the year amounting to between £3000 and £4000. The chairman, while moving the adoption of the report, said there were on that occasion eighty-three candidates seeking election to the benefits of the asylum, but the financial condition of the institution would admit of the election of only twenty, and after that day's election there would be 214 orphans on their books. He earnestly appealed for help.

The half-yearly general court of the Royal Humane Society was held, on Tuesday, at the offices in Trafalgar-square—Mr. W. Hawes (treasurer) in the chair. Mr. Lambton Young (secretary) reported that during the year the number of persons who had bathed in the Serpentine was estimated at 305,000, and of these only one had been drowned. At the Waterloo Bridge receiving-house thirty-nine cases were received, and twenty were successfully treated, making, since the foundation of that dépôt, seventy-four persons saved out of nearly 150. The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Duke of Argyll being re-elected president for the ensuing year. The number of persons who had distinguished themselves in the saving of life amounted to five, and in accordance with the rules of the society one of them was awarded the Stanhope Gold Medal. The recipient was Mr. G. W. B. Storey, of Henbury, Tasmania, who rescued three persons from a flood which occurred at that place in August, 1875. Mr. Storey had to swim seventy yards, and succeeded, after battling against the stream for three hours, in conveying each of the persons separately on to dry land. He then with great difficulty managed to reach the house of a friend, distant about two miles, on the opposite side of the river.

According to annual custom on the first Monday after the Epiphany—Plough Monday, as it is generally called—the Lord Mayor went in state from the Mansion House to the Guildhall, to preside at a Grand Court of Wardmote for the reception of the returns from the several civic wards of the results of the election of Common Councilmen on St. Thomas's Day last. The returns showed that in the twenty-six wards 206 Common Councilmen, in all, had been elected—namely, for Farringdon Within and Without, 30; Cripplegate, 16; Bishopsgate, 14; Aldersgate, Aldgate, Billingsgate, Bread-street, Bridge, Broad-street, Castle Baynard, Cheap, Coleman-street, Langborn, Portsoken, and Tower, eight each; Candlewick, Cordwainer, Cornhill, Dowgate, Queenhithe, Vintry, and Walbrook, six each; and Bassishaw and Lime-street, four each. There are only six new members of the Court—namely, Mr. J. L. Cross, Mr. Frederick Stanley, Mr. John Corke, Mr.

Walter H. Wilkin, and Mr. John R. W. Luck. There was no opposition to the returns. The City Marshal (Major D. J. P. Campbell) was sworn in the fulfilment of his duties, and the ward beadles, market officers, and other special constables were appointed. In the evening the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained the officers of their household and others at a dinner at the Mansion House.

The fourth meeting of the present session of the Royal Geographical Society was held, on Monday, in the theatre of the London University, Burlington-gardens—Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., presiding. On the reading of the minutes Sir Mordaunt Wells complained of the arrangements made for the meeting in St. James's Hall. The president ruled that the speaker was out of order, and he added that as there were 6000 persons entitled to be present on the occasion referred to, while it was impossible to accommodate one half the number, inconvenience was unavoidable. Mr. Robert Michell then read a paper on the Russian Expedition to the Alai and Pamir, compiled chiefly from letters written by a Russian officer. The range of country surveyed lies between the seventy-third and seventy-sixth degrees of longitude, on the borders of Turkestan. The features of this mountainous country and the chief characteristics of the tribes that inhabit it were described very fully by Mr. Michell, and a protracted discussion of a technical kind followed the reading of his paper, in which Colonel Yule, Sir Henry Rawlinson, Sir Douglas Forsyth, General E. Strachey, and Sir George Campbell took part. In his concluding remarks the president said that the part of Asia that had been under discussion was, perhaps, less known than any other, and any small modicum of knowledge with regard to it must be gratefully received.

The half-yearly meeting of the governors of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Old Kent-road, and Margate, Kent, was held, on Monday, at the Cannon-street Hotel—the Rev. Prebendary Evans in the chair. The subscribers were informed that the venerable treasurer, Mr. Beriah Drew, had recently asked the committee to accept his resignation; and, bearing in mind Mr. Drew's great age, and that the duties of the office involve much attention to the affairs of the charity, the committee had most reluctantly complied with the treasurer's request. A special vote of thanks to Mr. Drew for long and valuable services to the charity was agreed to unanimously. Mr. Drew, it may be mentioned, has been a governor of the charity between seventy and eighty years, and has filled the office of treasurer more than twenty-five years. Mr. Charles Few, a member of the committee, was elected treasurer. During the last year seventy-six children were admitted and sent to the branch asylum at Margate, which was made use of for the first time in August last. The progress made by the children at the branch asylum has been perfectly satisfactory to the managers. Mr. Richard Elliott, an assistant at the Old Kent-road Asylum for thirteen years, has been appointed to the head mastership of the branch asylum. Eighty-one children left the London asylum last year, and thirty-five were apprenticed to various trades. It has been resolved to have the children at both asylums periodically examined by independent examiners. The charity now consists of two large asylums, requiring a considerable annual outlay. The past year had not been, in a financial point of view, so satisfactory as usual. The committee hope that during the year now opening there may be no necessity to limit the operations of the charity for the want of pecuniary assistance from the public generally. The ordinary receipts in 1876, including a balance from the previous year of £1296, amounted to £9354, and the general expenses to £12,055, the deficit having to be met by absorbing the sum of £3334 bequeathed as legacies, instead of being funded. After appointing officers for the ensuing year, the election of fifteen boys and ten girls was proceeded with.

PREPARATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS.
The desirability of evening training classes being instituted, whereby persons who desire to become successful teachers, and who possess a natural aptitude for the office, as well as the indispensable culture, can receive the requisite technical training, has frequently been advocated in several leading journals.

To meet this desideratum, the Rev. John Rodgers, M.A., vice-chairman of the London School Board, has opened evening classes, under the superintendence of the Rev. Charles Westly Groves, M.A. (Wrangler), at which, for a comparatively small fee, aspirants to the teachers' work can attend nightly lessons and lectures given by six experienced tutors.

The course of instruction is especially designed to aid those who essay to pass the Government examinations, and who subsequently propose to become (if not already) middle-class or elementary public school teachers.

This opportunity is not intended to be embraced by those who can enter a recognised training college, but for such as unfortunately are unable to avail themselves of the privilege.

The new session will be opened at seven p.m. on Monday next, the 15th inst.

LECTURES ON CAPITAL AND LABOUR.

A course of four lectures to the members of working-men's clubs and others, similar to those which created so much interest last winter, will be given by Professor Leone Levi, on Saturday afternoons, at four o'clock. At the close of each lecture an hour will be occupied in discussion and in reply to questions; and, after the conclusion of the course, there will be a written examination for such members of the club affiliated to the Club and Institute Union as may desire to attend. To those who distinguish themselves prizes will be awarded by the council of King's College, in the theatre of which institution the lectures will be delivered. The first lecture will take place next Saturday, the 20th inst., the subject being the Use of Capital in Industry; and Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., will preside. Tickets of admission for those who are not members of working-men's clubs may be obtained at the office of the Club and Institute Union, 150, Strand.

Yesterday week several members of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union were received at a conversazione by the Dean of Westminster in the Jerusalem Chamber. Amongst these present were Professor Tyndall, Professor Seeley, Sir W. Dasent, Mr. G. Grove, the Rev. H. Solly, Mr. Hodgson Pratt, and several members of the council.

CANADIAN PRODUCE.

There is now to be seen at the offices of the Canadian Government Agency, Canada-buildings, Queen Victoria-street, a collection of the agricultural products of the province of Manitoba, in the dominion of Canada. These consist of specimens of wheat, barley, rye, hops, beet, turnips, onions, mangold wurtzel, and various other items of farm produce, together with some specimens of mineral wealth, including silver, lead, iron, the Canadian amethyst, and other mineral productions. The object the agency has in view in exhibiting these products is to stimulate British emigration to the northwest territory, where, it is stated, land is to be had for a few shillings an acre. The various specimens of farm produce are represented as emanations from the unmanured and virgin soil of the country, and will repay a visit of inspection. The statistics of the produce are, of course, those furnished by the

agency. Taking some of the leading specimens promiscuously, there are some Swedish turnips yielding, it is said, 35 tons to the acre, ranging from 7 lb. to 24 lb. in weight; there are also some white Dutch turnips yielding from 25 to 30 tons per acre. There are globe and long red mangolds, some gigantic horse-radish, blood-red beets, kohlrabi, red and brown onions, yielding 500 bushels to the acre, without weeding or thinning; specimens of oats, marsh hay, yielding 4 tons per acre; prairie-grass, broad beans, wild hops, early horn carrot, &c. A specimen of the soil of the district, a rich black loam, is also exhibited by Mr. Whellans, at the request of the agent of the Canadian agent in this country.

This is the first occasion on which the farm products of the north-west of the Dominion have been introduced into England, and their inspection might well form an element in determining intending emigrants upon the choice of a locality to which to proceed.

A WEEK'S BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The total number of births registered in London last week was 2819, and there were 1507 deaths. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 200, whereas the deaths were 243 below, the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 116 from smallpox, 28 from measles, 25 from scarlet fever, 12 from diphtheria, 32 from whooping-cough, 22 from different forms of fever, and 18 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 253 deaths were referred, against 237 and 235 in the two preceding weeks. These deaths were 6 below the corrected average number from the same diseases in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The fatal cases of measles, scarlet fever, and whooping-cough were in the aggregate 83 below the corrected average. The deaths from diphtheria showed an excess. The deaths referred to fever were 18 below the corrected average; 3 were certified as typhus, 14 as enteric or typhoid, and 5 low or simple fever. The 298 deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs showed a decline of 54 from the number in the previous week, and were 163 below the corrected average weekly number.

The deaths from smallpox, which had been 75, 97, and 75 in the three preceding weeks, rose last week to 116, the highest weekly number during the present epidemic; 45 were certified as unvaccinated, 40 as vaccinated, and in the remaining 31 cases the medical certificates did not furnish any information as to vaccination. The 116 fatal cases included 47 in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals at Homerton, Stockwell, and Hampstead, 5 in the Highgate Smallpox Hospital, 2 in the North-street Infirmary (Poplar), 1 in an ambulance, and 1 in the House of Correction; the remaining 60, or 52 per cent, of the total cases, occurred in private dwellings. The fatal cases showed a marked increase in East and South London. The Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals contained 859 smallpox patients on Saturday last, against numbers increasing steadily from 185 to 823 in the ten preceding weeks; about 200 cases were necessarily refused admission during the week, all the available beds being occupied. In consequence of the increase of smallpox in the metropolitan district, and the inability of the existing hospitals to admit all the applicants, the Asylums Board on Saturday resolved to rent premises in Limehouse for a year, if an agreement can be arranged with the landlords.

Eight deaths were caused by horses in the streets.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, last week, the mean temperature was 46 deg., or 10 deg. above the average.

A YEAR'S BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

In the course of the fifty-two weeks of the year 1876 there were 127,015 births registered in London, a number which is equivalent to an annual rate of 36·5 per 1000 inhabitants, that for the previous year being 35·7. Going back to the year 1856, the total is found to be 86,833, so that, in other words, the births in London in 1876 were nearly half as numerous again as they were in 1856. The births in the past year show an excess of 49,604 over the registered deaths; this number, therefore, represents the year's natural growth of the population of the metropolis. In round numbers, it may be said that there were 15 children born in London in every hour, and 9 persons ceased to exist.

During the fifty-two weeks of 1876 there were 77,411 deaths registered in London, a number which is equal to an annual rate of 22·2 per 1000 inhabitants. The rate for 1872 was 21·5, but with this exception there is no earlier record of a satisfactory rate until the year 1856. Of the total deaths in London in the past year, 13,925 took place in workhouses, hospitals, and other public institutions; 5278 were inquired into before coroners; and 2885 represents the number of fatal accidents, or, more strictly, violent deaths. There were 19,893 deaths of infants under one, and 15,542 of adults aged sixty and upwards. The fatal cases of zymotic diseases were:—Smallpox, 735; measles, 1741; scarlet fever, 2297; diphtheria, 359; whooping-cough, 2739; fever, 1176; and diarrhoea, 3518. As compared with the totals of the previous year smallpox shows an increase of 660, measles of 314, and diarrhoea of 320. On the other hand, scarlet fever has declined by 1354 fatal cases, other fevers by 106, diphtheria by 187, and whooping-cough by 493.

According to the Registrar-General's annual report for the year 1876, the date of the last return, there were 33,248 marriages celebrated in London. Of this total 28,910 took place according to the rites of the Church, while 4338 were not in conformity to the rites of the Establishment. Of the 28,910 Church marriages 10 were by special license, 3328 by the ordinary license, 25,514 by banns, 37 were on production of the superintendent registrar's certificate, and in 21 cases the particulars were not stated. Of the 4338 Nonconformist marriages, 1108 were of Roman Catholics, 1285 related to other Christian denominations, 1634 took place in the registrar office, 4 were of Quakers, and 307 of Jews. The marriages are thus distributed according to seasons:—In the March quarter, 6500; in the June quarter, 8689; in the September quarter, 8883; and in the December quarter, 9176. As to the "civil condition" of the married, it appears that 27,032 marriages were between bachelors and spinsters, 1604 between bachelors and widows, 2907 between widowers and spinsters, and 1705 were of widowers with widows. Altogether there were 4612 widowers married, and 3309 widows. As to the age of the married, it is stated that there were 1531 men married under twenty-one, and 5532 women. There were 1284 cases in which both the man and woman signed by mark, and there were 4488 instances where one of the parties signed in a similar manner. Altogether there were 2708 cases where the man signed by mark, and 4438 of women.

Lady Burdett-Coutts has contributed £300 to the fund for providing a new building for the British Horological Institute.

Mr. Richard Daft, captain of the Nottingham County Eleven of Cricketers, was on Tuesday, entertained at a dinner at Nottingham, and presented with a service of plate, £500, a silver tankard, and a silver hunting-flask. The plate service and money were chiefly the outcome of a match played at Nottingham, in July last, for the benefit of Mr. Daft.

THE CHURCH.

PREFEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Bennett, J. W., to be Vicar of St. Paul's, Hampstead.
Bulstrode, George; Honorary Canon of Ely Cathedral.
Cowley-Brown, George James; Rector of St. Edmund's, Salisbury.
Dowland, Edmund; Rector of Tarrant Keystone, Dorset.
Gardner, Thomas James C.; Perpetual Curate of Baddesley Ensor, Warwick.
Gibson, Hugh; Harries; Bishop's Vicar in St. David's Cathedral.
Barrett-Lennard, John; Rector of Crawley, Sussex.
Lumley, W. L.; Chaplain to the Chelmsford County Gaol.
Martin, Walter Willasey; Rector of Shepperton.
Mathwin, J.; Vicar of Tanfield; Vicar of West Pelton, near Chester-le-Street.
Morphew, John Cross; Vicar of Stratford, Norfolk.
Peile, W. O.; Rector of Markshall, Essex.
Peploe, Hamner William Webb; Vicar of St. Paul's, Onslow-square.
Philott, Newman George; Rector of Thwaite All Saints', Norfolk.
Furton, H. B.; Rector of Kinwarton with Chapelry of Great Alne.
Richards, H. W. P.; Vicar of Isleworth; Rural Dean of Ealing.
Robinson, Eustace; Vicar of Grimley.
Roxby, Wilfrid; Rector of Thornford, Dorset.
Sharland, George E.; Vicar of Easton-cum-Stow, Songa.
Shaw, John; Minister of St. John's, Chelsea.—*Guardian.*

The Bishop of Exeter is to be presented with a pastoral staff in recognition of his generosity in diverting £800 a year from his income to the see of Truro.

The Rev. Edward Tucker Leeke, of Cambridge, has been appointed Canon and Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral, in the room of Dr. Benson.

A memorial church to the late Bishop Sumner was consecrated, at Farnham, on Tuesday. The Bishop of Winchester and the Bishop of Guildford took part in the ceremony.

The Rev. H. R. Haweis, Incumbent of St. James's, Marylebone, has received a special licence from the Bishop of London to officiate at St. James's Hall, Regent-street, during the repairs in his own church.

On Tuesday week the Bishop of Durham consecrated St. Andrew's Church and burial-ground at Stanley, which is part of the newly-formed parish of Beamish. The total cost has been about £4500, and all the money, except £50, was subscribed before the consecration. The church provides accommodation for 400 people.

The Rev. J. J. Glendinning Nash, M.A., has been elected (out of eight candidates) by the parishioners to the Thursday morning lectureship of St. Peter-upon-Cornhill, founded in 1669. Mr. Nash has arranged for the delivery, on Thursday, of a course of lectures on "The History of St. Paul, viewed in connection with Modern Life."

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, on Saturday last, laid the foundation-stone of a new church, at Cheltenham, to be dedicated to St. Matthew. The Bishop of Gloucester was present. At a subsequent luncheon Sir Michael expressed his belief that never was the Church of England stronger in the affections of the laity, and that, whatever evils might be in store for her, she would come out purified, strengthened, and enlarged.

A handsome testimonial, consisting of a silver salver, a pair of candelabra, and a set of corner dishes, in value about £300, was presented, on Monday evening, to the Rev. Edward Capel Cure, the recently-appointed Rector of St. George's, Hanover-square, by his old and attached parishioners of St. George's, Bloomsbury. A testimonial from the ladies of Bloomsbury had been previously presented to Mrs. Capel Cure.

Castleacre church, one of the noblest of the Norfolk churches, was reopened by the Bishop of Norwich, on Thursday week, after a thorough and costly restoration. The parish is an interesting one, having been the stronghold of the De Warenes from the time of the Conquest till the reign of Edward III. The ruins of their fortress and of the Cluniac Priory, built by them, are extensive and picturesque, and serve as massive mementoes of departed feudal power.

At a public meeting held in Bristol, on Tuesday, it was resolved to memorialise the Home Secretary to bring in a bill for the reconstitution of the ancient see of Bristol by dividing it from that of Gloucester. It is proposed that the new Bishop should also be Dean of Bristol, by which an income of £1500 would be secured. Dr. Ellicott offers £500 a year, and it is intended to raise £25,000, so as to secure another £1000, or a total of £3000 a year.

Considerable tumult interrupted the ritualistic ceremonies in St. James's Church, at Hatcham, on Sunday. The singing of the Introit was drowned by a chorus of "God Save the Queen," and the noise of an angry crowd outside the edifice continually disturbed the services within. At Blackburn an inhibited clergyman caused some trouble by continuing to preach, and by refusing to give up the keys of his church; but a conflict was averted by the action of the police.

The church of Weston-under-Lizard, near Shifnal, having been recently restored, at considerable cost, from plans by Mr. Ewan Christian, by the Earl of Bradford and the Hon. and Rev. J. R. O. Bridgeman, Rector, was reopened by the Bishop of Lichfield on Thursday week. The early portions of the church are of the fourteenth century, and it contains the effigies of two Knights Templars from whom the Earl of Bradford is descended.

The Bishop of Worcester has lately consecrated the new Church of St. George, Redditch. The building, which consists of a nave and aisle, with a chancel, will accommodate 400 worshippers. It is in the Early English style. His Lordship preached on the occasion, and at the lunch congratulated the Vicar of Redditch, the Rev. G. F. Fessey, on the success of his exertions to increase the efficiency of the church in his parish. Till now, Redditch, with a population of 8000 souls, had possessed but a single church.

The Rev. Arthur Majendie, Rector of Woodstock, makes an appeal for help towards the restoration of the church of Woodstock, which, he remarks, is interesting not only on account of its historical associations, but also on account of the beauty it had before it was marred by the bad taste and neglect of ages. The Duke of Marlborough and other members of his family have given nearly £1000 towards the work. The architect, Mr. Arthur Bloomfield, says that £5000 will be required for the proper restoration of the building.

Chiefly through the liberality of Captain Whitmore, the parish church of St. Helen, Gumley, Leicestershire, has been brought into a condition not unworthy of its sacred character. The spire, which had been struck with lightning, has been restored to the perpendicular, and the shabby little chancel of fifty years ago has been rebuilt upon its ancient foundation. In other respects the church has been greatly improved and adorned under the care of Messrs. Bodley and Garner, of Gray's Inn. The church was reopened, on the 1st inst., by the Bishop of Peterborough.

St. Luke's Church, Kilburn, was consecrated by the Bishop of London, on Tuesday, in the presence of a good congregation, composed chiefly of the working classes. It is to provide for the spiritual need of this largely increasing neighbourhood that the church has been built, upwards of 500 persons now living in the district. The church, which has been completed at a cost of £4500, contains 800 free sittings. The building is in the early English style of architecture. All the work has been

carried out by Messrs. Dove Brothers, the church builders, under the direction of Mr. John T. Lee, architect. The Incumbent appointed to the new church is the Rev. Ralph Williams, formerly in charge of Christ's Church, Stepney.

Last Saturday afternoon the Dean of Manchester opened a new church, which has been built at Wilsmoor by Mr. George Fox, in memory of his wife. It has cost about £3000, and will furnish accommodation for nearly 400 persons. The pastoral care of the district has been assigned to the Rev. W. J. Scarlin, but the services will be conducted alternately by the Rector of St. Bartholomew's and the rev. gentleman until the church is endowed and consecrated. All the sittings are free, and the services are to be kept up by the weekly offertory, it having been the desire of the founder "to provide means of worship and instruction, and, having so done, to leave their maintenance to those who use them."

The trustees under the will of the late Mr. Thomas William Hill have paid over to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the sum of £10,000 in augmentation of the living of St. Silas, Bristol. They have also paid £25,000 to the trustees of Hill's Almshouses, Berkeley-place; have made arrangements to pay £20,000 to the trustees of the Bristol Royal Infirmary for the maintenance of the wing erected by Mr. Hill; and have also set apart a sum of £5000 as a permanent endowment for providing a curate or curates for the parish of St. Silas. There is, after providing for these bequests, a considerable balance remaining, which, it is understood, will be applied for the benefit of the schools of St. Silas and St. Luke's, Bedminster.

The scheme started, last year, by the Rev. Canon Hill, Vicar of Sheffield, to build nine additional churches in that town within five years is making good progress. At a meeting held on Monday the rev. gentleman stated that two churches had been promised, besides donations of money to the amount of £20,000. He also mentioned that a gentleman had purchased the moiety of the advowson of the parish church of Sheffield, with the intention of handing it over to the Simeon trustees. The Archbishop of York presided at the meeting, and expressed himself full of hope at the advance being made by the Church of England in Sheffield.—Yesterday week Sir Gilbert Scott paid a visit to Sheffield for the purpose of inspecting the parish church, with a view to its restoration. The *Sheffield Telegraph* understands that Sir Gilbert expressed himself confident that the edifice could be made worthy of the commanding position it occupied in the centre of the town. The cost of making the necessary alterations is to be borne by Mrs. Thornhill-Gill, of Stanton-in-the-Peak, Derbyshire, whose contribution of £10,000 has been already lodged in the bank.

The well-known excellent little work, "Who's Who," published by A. H. Baily and Co., Cornhill, has been thoroughly revised, and the information contained therein is brought down to the latest possible date.

We announce with regret the death, yesterday week, of Mr. Robert Landells, who was for many years one of the Special Artists of this Journal. A portrait of Mr. Landells will be given in our next issue.

A provision-dealer in Bristol, whose father compounded with his creditors about twenty-five years ago, has just paid not only the balance due on his father's death, but interest up to the time of payment.

The Dorset rifle battalion, under the command of Colonel Steward, met at the Dorsetshire Corn Exchange, on Tuesday, and presented to Colonel G. Mansel, who is retiring from the command, his portrait, painted by Mr. Stephen Pearce, of London. Lord Eldon made the presentation.

Mr. John Morley, in addressing a meeting of the Miners' Association at Hanley, on Monday evening, confined his observations chiefly to the subject of trades unions, pointing out the aims and objects of these organisations, their bearing upon the development of capital and upon the rate of wages, and the unsound nature of the charges brought against them. He strongly advised his hearers to assist the agricultural labourers in forming similar organisations amongst themselves.

The first number of a new weekly penny journal, *The Colonies*, which has grown out of the fortnightly circular hitherto issued under that name by Messrs. Silver and Co., emigration agents, of Cornhill, made its appearance on Saturday last. It contains eight pages of interesting and instructive matter concerning the affairs of each of the British colonies and of India, editorial comments, summaries of colonial news, descriptive essays and sketches, and original correspondence. We consider it likely to be very useful, more especially to intending emigrants and to commercial men.

The following, in the order of merit, are declared by the Civil Service Commissioners to be the successful candidates at the open competition, held in December, 1876, for admission to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich:—S. Davidson, P. L. O. Roper, R. Leigh, A. S. Wedderburn, S. L. Norris, W. E. Fairholme, P. B. Taylor, E. A. P. Hobday, H. J. Du Cane, C. D. Learoyd, W. W. Baker, J. H. L. Dallas, J. E. Harvey, H. R. Butler, G. R. Darley, E. W. W. Beecher, A. G. Drummond, G. V. Kemball, F. E. Cooper, G. D'A. Alexander, J. H. Bulguy, R. L. Heygate, N. D. Findlay, B. B. Russell, L. J. D. Hepenstal, D. A. Mills, A. H. Block, the Hon. R. Tyrwhitt, J. H. Thompson, F. C. L. Manning, H. K. Jackson, H. Mullally, H. E. W. de Roebeck, F. H. Horniblow, J. G. Turner, J. A. Labalmondiere, Viscount Feilding, H. H. Beever, E. F. Nelson.

The great sea serpent will not be ignored. He has now appeared, by affidavit, in a police court. The captain and crew of a vessel called the *Pauline*, which has arrived in the Mersey from Akyab, report that in July, 1875, off Cape San Roque, on the north-east coast of Brazil, they saw the great sea serpent. On Tuesday the captain, whose name is Drevar, appeared before the stipendiary magistrate of Liverpool, Mr. Raffles, and expressed a wish, on his own behalf and that of his crew, to make a declaration affirming the truth of their statements respecting the serpent. Mr. Raffles desired Captain Drevar to prepare a written declaration and bring it before him. This Captain Drevar did, on Wednesday, accompanied by a number of his crew. The declaration is to the effect that he and others on board the *Pauline*, on July 8, 1875, while in latitude 5 deg. 13 min. S., longitude 35 deg. W., observed three large sperm whales, one of which was gripped round the body with two turns of what appeared to be a huge serpent. The head and tail appeared to have a length, beyond the coils, of about thirty feet, and the girth seemed to be eight or nine feet. The serpent whirled its victim round and round for about fifteen minutes, and then suddenly dragged the whale to the bottom, head first. Again, on July 13, a similar serpent was seen about 200 yards off the *Pauline*, shooting itself along the surface, its head and neck being several feet out of the water. Subsequently the head of the animal was shot sixty feet into the air. The declaration was signed by Captain Drevar, Horatio Thompson (chief officer), John Henderson Landells (second officer), William Lewarn (steward), and Owen Barker (seaman).

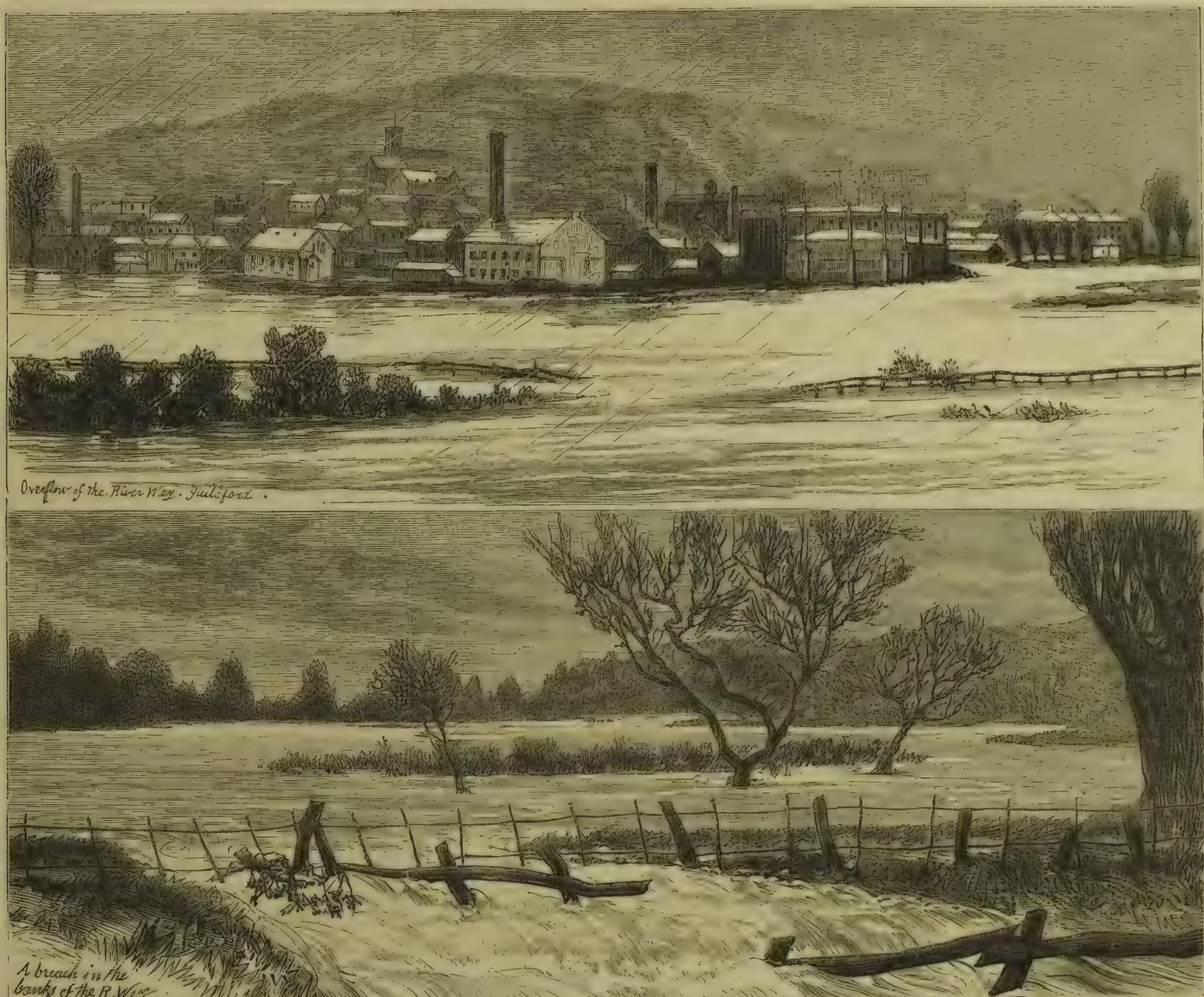


HEAVY RAINS AT CONSTANTINOPLE: PEOPLE GOING TO HEAR THE READING OF THE CONSTITUTION.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

T H E S T O R M S A N D F L O O D S.



PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF EASTBOURNE PIER.



SCENES AT GUILDFORD.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

The coming Session of Parliament is casting its shadows before. We learn that the Address of the House of Lords in reply to the Queen's Speech will be moved by Lord Grey de Wilton and seconded by the Earl of Haddington; and that in the House of Commons the Address will be moved by Lord Galway, member for North Nottinghamshire, and seconded by Mr. Torr, member for Liverpool.

There are other signs of the quickening of political life. Members of Parliament are addressing their constituents, probably rehearsing some of the arguments they intend using in the House of Commons. Most of these addresses were given on Tuesday last.

Addressing his constituents at Kensington Vestry-Hall, Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke expressed a partial agreement only with the criticisms passed on the Government by many Liberals, and said he had marvelled much to see the old denouncers of Russian autocracy now favouring the immediate adoption of the policy of Canon Liddon and the Emperor Alexander. Sir Charles commented strongly on the inconsistent course which Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright have pursued.

Mr. J. Holms and Professor Fawcett, the members for Hackney, delivered their annual addresses to their electors in the Shoreditch Townhall. Mr. Holms confined himself chiefly to the questions of the cost of carrying on the business of the country and the condition of the Army. He protested against any increase in our national expenditure, and considered the Army in an unsatisfactory state. Mr. Fawcett's speech was devoted principally to the Eastern Question, respecting which he considered the greatest danger that now hung over Eastern Europe was that a settlement which was not a real settlement might be patched up, and that nothing would be done to remove from the Turkish provinces the misgovernment that had so long afflicted them.

Sir W. V. Harcourt, speaking at the dinner of the Oxford Liberal Association, declared that the foreign affairs of England have been glaringly misconducted by the present Government, particularly with regard to the Slave Circular and the Extradition Treaty with America. As to the Eastern Question, he not alone justified the agitation of the past few months, but asserted that it has had the effect of making the Government reverse their policy about Turkey. Now that the Government had been guided into the true path, all that remained was to wish them Godspeed and proper courage to bring their efforts to a right conclusion. He admitted that the conduct pursued by the Marquis of Salisbury had been in every way worthy of that nobleman's high character and his great position. The ultimate problem which still remained for European statesmen to solve was not how the Government of Turkey may be maintained, but how it can be most safely replaced.

Mr. Chamberlain delivered an address on education and the disestablishment question at Leeds. He contended that the Church had been the greatest obstacle to the establishment of a national system of education, and advocated that some of the vast revenue of the Church should be applied to securing a free education for every child in the land, and in doing something to provide better homes for the poor both in cities and villages.

At the annual dinner of the Tynemouth Conservative Association, presided over by Earl Percy, M.P., Mr. J. Lowther defended the policy of the Government.

Several speeches were made by members on Wednesday.

Mr. Lowther, Under Secretary for the Colonies, addressing a gathering at York, denied that the Government ever had any intention of going to war on behalf of Turkey, and maintained that, when the history of the foreign policy of the past six months came to be impartially written, it would be seen that the course pursued by the Administration was calculated to secure the best interests and thoroughly to maintain the dignity of the country.

Sir John Lubbock and Sir Sydney Waterlow met their constituents at Maidstone. The former Hon. Baronet, noticing the statements which have been published respecting the policy of England towards her colonies and other countries, believed that there had hardly been a year in which England had not been at a large and continuous expense for the benefit of those countries; and, so far from England deriving any benefit in the way of revenue, the colonies had gained greater advantages from their connection with us than we had from them.

Mr. Ferguson and Sir Wilfrid Lawson addressed their constituents at Carlisle, and Sir Wilfrid made an amusing speech upon the questions of the day.

Sir J. Hogg, in an address to his constituents at Truro, remarked, respecting the Eastern Question, that the anxieties of the Government had been greatly increased by meetings which had much better not have been held, and far better let alone. He hoped that the Government would take care that no other Power, especially Russia, should take possession of Constantinople, the key to India.

Mr. Marten and Mr. Smollett, made speeches at the annual dinner of the Cambridge Junior Conservative Club, in which they reviewed the events of the past Session, referring specially to the Eastern Question.

LAW AND POLICE.

In consequence of Easter falling so much earlier this year than last, it has been arranged to hold the spring circuits on or about Feb. 15, to enable the Judges, if possible, to finish the business before Good Friday, in which event they will secure a short vacation prior to the commencement of the succeeding sittings, which begin on April 16.

When the Session of the Central Criminal Court was opened, on Monday, the calendar contained the names of fifty-eight male and nineteen female prisoners for trial. Amongst the cases disposed of was a charge against Alicia Smith, a married woman, who pleaded guilty to having obtained £350 by false pretences from the Lombard Deposit Bank. The prisoner took a house belonging to Miss Reed in Frankfort-terrace, Harrow-road, and she and Miss Reed subsequently became very friendly. The prisoner induced Miss Reed to allow her to have possession of the deed relating to the house in Frankfort-terrace, and this she took to the Lombard Bank, and, representing herself to be Miss Reed, obtained a loan of £350. She was sentenced to ten months' hard labour. A bankrupt chemist, named Appleby, who carried on business in Tottenham-court-road, was found guilty of fraudulently concealing property from his creditors; and sentenced to nine months' hard labour. A young woman named Burke was found guilty, on Tuesday, of obtaining £50 from the Post Office by forging the name of a neighbour, whose savings-bank book had been stolen. Sentence was deferred. On Wednesday, a man and his wife, named Jones, who lived at Leyton, were sentenced to eighteen and twelve months' imprisonment for cruel neglect to their infant, which caused its death. Thomas W. Christian, who attempted to poison his landlady, at Charlton, by pouring prussic acid into her mouth as she lay asleep one night, was found guilty of attempting to administer poison, and sentence was deferred. The trial of Sir Edward Cunynghame and his associates for alleged conspiracy was postponed on account of the illness of one of the defendants.

The Assistant Judge, in his charge to the grand jury at the Middlesex Sessions, on Monday, remarked upon the fact that a hundred more persons were convicted at these sessions during the last year than in 1875; that the chief increase is to be found in the number of larcenies and embezzlements by clerks and servants, and that public exhibitions of drunkenness have never been of more frequent occurrence in the metropolis than at the present day. Owen Duffy was, for robbing the Great Western Railway Company of a large quantity of property, sentenced to penal servitude for six years. Thomas Green, charged with assaulting a constable, was declared to be of unsound mind, and ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure. Samuel Jones, previously convicted, was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, to be followed by seven years' police supervision, for breaking into a dwelling-house and stealing articles of the value of £9. The grand jury made a presentation pointing out the evil results of goods being exposed outside shops. The Assistant-Judge expressed his concurrence with their views, and promised to forward their presentation to the Home Secretary. On Wednesday a greengrocer, named Jubb, who lives in Tottenham, gave an amusing account of a spirited encounter he had with some burglars in his own house, one night in December. He caught one of them, who was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment. Throstle, an omnibus conductor, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for not accounting for fares received by him for the London General Omnibus Company.

A German, who gave the name of Robert Phillips, was yesterday week sentenced to nineteen years' penal servitude at the Surrey Sessions for a series of extensive and impudent swindles. He came to this country at the close of the Franco-German war, and, being required in Germany for misdeeds committed there, he promised, on leaving England, to come back and "show them a trick or two," because "England was the place for swindling." At the expiration of his sentence he returned and kept his promise, cheating and defrauding in every direction. A detective said during the trial there were about 500 men of this description now in this country, and added that he could name a dozen of them who rode in their own carriages. Last Monday a sentence of fourteen years' penal servitude was passed upon a man named Charles Cole, well known to the police as the receiver of stolen property.

Cabby is not always in the wrong. Last Saturday a cabdriver was summoned to Guildhall for refusing to take a fare. The defendant stated that the complainant had as luggage two immense boxes, more fitted for a van than a cab, and these he objected to carry unless he received something extra on account thereof. The magistrate held that the cabman was right, and dismissed the summons.—A man who had violently assaulted a cabdriver because the latter had refused to take him as a fare, was, on Wednesday, fined £5 by the Clerkenwell magistrate, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Dramatic copyright was brought into question at the Westminster County Court, on Tuesday, when Mr. Baylis, the Judge, after having heard the case for Mr. John David Bessemer, a dramatic author, against Mr. Alexander Henderson, said he should reserve his judgment in order to consider whether only one penalty should be given. It appeared that the defendant had played a certain piece at

Liverpool in ignorance of the fact that its author, the plaintiff, had left the Dramatic Authors' Society.

Mr. B. Warr, a farmer, of Benthill, Buckingham, was fined £6 and costs at Marylebone, on Tuesday, for having supplied adulterated milk to the Aylesbury Milk Company.—George Shaw, of 9, Richmond-street, St. Luke's, has been fined 7s. 6d. for selling milk adulterated with 25 per cent of water; and Joseph Love, of 26, Ironmonger-row, has been ordered to pay a penalty of 20s., with the cost, for selling as butter an article "the fatty matter thereof being entirely a foreign ingredient."

Remarking on the wonderful fact that victims of such barefaced and old-fashioned impostures as the confidence trick are still to be found, Mr. Hannay, the Worship-street police magistrate, on Tuesday, remanded two men on the charge of stealing a silver watch from a groom, named Robert Jones, in service at Lower Clapton.

Frederick W. Jennings was charged, on remand, at Worship-street, on Wednesday, with stealing a young woman's gold watch. The prosecutrix had for a length of time "kept company" with the prisoner, who took her watch, as he alleged, by way of a joke; but, after being repeatedly asked to return it, admitted that he had pawned it. Since the remand another young woman came forward to say that she also had been courted by the prisoner, and he, in a similar way to that described by the first witness, had taken 16s. from her pocket, which he could never be persuaded to return. As it was said that other ladies might come forward to complain of the conduct of the prisoner, he was remanded.

Defalcations to a considerable amount having been discovered in the accounts of a Foresters' lodge at Brixton, the charge of embezzlement has been preferred against Gilbert Goldfinch, the late secretary, who was brought up on remand last Wednesday, at Lambeth, on a former charge of attempting to commit suicide. He was committed for trial on the evidence of persons connected with the lodge.

The two silly youths who recently put a coat of paint on the statue of the late Lord Derby at Preston were, yesterday week, sentenced to pay the costs of the prosecution, the cost of restoring the statue, and the amount of the reward offered for the detection of the offenders (£20), and also to find sureties for their future good behaviour.

James Williams, a deaf and dumb man, who, at the last Guildford County Bench, was charged with unlawfully soliciting alms, by the presentation of a cleverly-written appeal, and with whom it will be recollected Lord Midleton held a conversation by means of the digital alphabet, which ended in the discharge of the prisoner, was again brought before the Bench, on Saturday, charged with a similar offence. The evidence was communicated to the prisoner with great promptitude by Lord Midleton. In reply, the prisoner said he had broken no law and he relied upon the legal knowledge of the Bench to do him justice by discharging him. Lord Midleton told the prisoner that he feared he was a professional mendicant. The prisoner, with great alacrity, replied on his fingers, "In that you are mistaken. I am an object of sympathy, and kind hearts take compassion upon me." Lord Midleton, with equal digital dexterity, replied, "My former leniency to you was misplaced. You will go to prison for a month." The prisoner, with great animation, replied, "You are an accomplished magistrate; but you have no compassion for an afflicted fellow-creature." He then bowed to the Bench and was removed in custody.

Mr. Stephen Allaway, a deputy lieutenant for Herefordshire, was, yesterday week, sentenced to a month's imprisonment, with hard labour, for obtaining credit under false pretences. He visited an hotel at Barmouth, running up a bill which he paid with a cheque on a Gloucester bank for £80, which was dishonoured.

The Recorder of Dublin, in opening the City Sessions, on Tuesday, drew the attention of the grand jury to the importance of providing wholesome and innocent recreation for the people, and of effecting a radical reform in the mode of constructing their dwellings.

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A STREET IN LINCOLN.

THE LATE STORMS AND FLOODS.

A brief account was given, in our last week's publication, of the destructive effects of the storm, on New-Year's Day, along the south coast, and on other shores of the British Islands; and likewise of the inundation caused by high tides and high winds, meeting the swollen current of the Thames, in the low-lying quarters of London; as well as the extensive inland floods, which prevailed during several days, in different parts of the country traversed by large rivers. We have selected for the subjects of our Illustrations a few of the more conspicuous disasters upon the late occasion: first, the partial demolition of the Admiralty Pier at Dover, and of the Eastbourne Pier, by the fury of the sea; next, the distressing scenes that took place at Nine Elms, in Lambeth, and in other metropolitan districts, when the river, at high tide on the following day (the 2nd inst.), poured into the lower rooms of many humble dwellings; thirdly, the wide-spreading floods above Richmond, in the meadows about Hampton Court, Teddington, and Kingston-on-Thames, also the inundation of the Wey near Guildford; lastly, the floods at Lincoln, besides which there were similar visitations of the plague of waters at Nottingham, Leicester, and Derby, and in many other towns and counties of provincial England. Windsor and Oxford, as usual, saw the low lands in their neighbourhood become a vast lake, to be ultimately discharged through London.

Our large Engraving, which occupies the two middle pages of this Number, represents the tremendous havoc which the waves of the Channel made of the Admiralty Pier at Dover, in a south-westerly gale of extreme violence, which blew in the forenoon of Monday week. It began about eight o'clock in the morning, but two hours later the full force of the storm was experienced. The Admiralty Pier was almost hidden by the heavy seas which swept its entire length, and the blinding spray was carried far in shore around the Lord Warden Hotel. The low-lying streets of the town, inhabited by the poorer classes, were completely flooded; many of the residents had to make their escape in boats. At high tide, about noon, the force of the sea was at its height. The massive masonry of the Admiralty Pier suffered great damage. Several hundred yards of the handsome granite promenade were washed away; the repairs will cost at least £30,000. The wreck which the storm produced was an extraordinary sight. Masses of stone and concrete lay about in all directions. One piece of massive masonry, twelve feet in length, by five feet in thickness, and twelve feet in width, was torn off, and hurled upon a block of similar proportions ten yards away—its weight being about sixty tons. The iron rails on which the trains go to take up Continental passengers were twisted and turned as though they were of wire. Happily, the lighthouse recently erected was not injured. The South-Eastern Railway Company's station was completely flooded, and as the tide went down gangs of men were busy clearing away the shingle and rubbish which covered the permanent way. At the Lord Warden Hotel, near the pier, a number of fire engines were kept at work pumping out the water from the basement. Strong timber defences were also erected, as the gale showed but little diminution; and it was feared that at high tide there might be further mischief. At East Cliff very serious injury has been done to the roadway beyond the revetment, where similar damage was sustained last year. It appears that ever since the removal of Round Down Cliff by the South-Eastern Company the sea has been gradually infringing upon Shakespeare's Cliff, and the result is inundation of the western portion of the town. It is considered that some effective mode of sea defence will have to be undertaken here, as well as at East Cliff, where the road has been again destroyed.

At Eastbourne, on the Sussex coast, in the gale of that same morning, crowds of residents and visitors were watching the huge breakers as they neared the shore, and, dashing against the stonework, threw up spray high into the air, sending showers of water upon the spectators. The gates leading to the pier were closed, and the public were not allowed upon it. The pier-master was, however, there at his post, and two men named Barber and French, employed as labourers in the work of enlarging and improving the structure, were standing near the office, about twenty yards from the pier gates. Suddenly the people on shore were startled by a loud crash, followed by another still louder, and in a few moments the sea lifted about 150 yards of the pier—built a few years since at a cost of £13,000—bodily from its supports, the pillars giving way rapidly one after the other. The end to seaward sank, but, rising again, was carried to the eastward at a fearful speed, the waves smashing it up like matchwood; the iron-work was twisted about as if it were merely string or wire. When the first sign of this destruction was observed those upon it ran to the entrance-gates. Before the gates were reached, however, the mass had given way, and was swept out of its position by the waves, which followed in rapid succession. All three men fell with the deck of the pier, which happily parted from the brickwork at the entrance on to the stone parade beneath. In a moment, however, they were scrambling up the woodwork, and, a score of willing hands being held out to assist, they were lifted on to terra firma only a few seconds before the advance of a monster wave. The man Barber was rescued with some difficulty, owing to his leg being jammed in the woodwork. When he was hauled on shore it was found that his thigh was severely injured. The sea was beating furiously upon the parade, and a huge hole, ten yards long by five wide and ten feet deep, had been formed by the sea during the time the destruction of the pier had been going on. At several parts of the parade the sea threatened to undermine and destroy it. The stout iron rails at Splash Point, a favourite spot for visitors to watch the sea, were twisted and broken by the waves; the steps leading to the beach were tossed up on to the parade as if they were so many feathers. All the houses at Marine-parade were more or less damaged by inundation; and Seaside-road was under water and impassable. On the eastern side of the Redoubt the sea made a breach in the sea-wall, and the whole of the Crumbles for a mile and a half was under water. At various parts might be seen large heaps of the wreckage of the pier, which found its way in after being thrown ashore to the westward of the Redoubt. The glacis of the Redoubt also suffered slightly, and a road leading from Christ Church to the fort was entirely swept away.

The gale made itself felt in an alarming manner at Folkestone, where the sea ran very high, and the waves broke with great violence. A breach was made by the sea through the East Pier Head, and some of the rocks which have formed a portion of the foundation since the formation of the harbour were washed away. The new pier which the South-Eastern Railway Company had erected for the Continental traffic was nearly destroyed, and part of the one now standing was greatly damaged, a large quantity of the woodwork and material support of the railway metals being broken and washed away by the sea, and leaving the pier quite unsafe for traffic. The toll-taker's box was broken away from its supports and washed down to the Old Harbour. Several windows of the lighthouse were broken in by the force of the wind and the waves, and a part of the building itself was seriously damaged.

The tidal inundation of the Thames in South London, on

the morning of Tuesday week, was a calamity still more deplorable; causing destruction to house and other property to the amount of, it is estimated, half a million of money, and producing great consternation and actual suffering. The recent heavy rains had swollen all the tributaries of the river to such an extent that, following closely on the heavy gales of Friday and Saturday, a rise of the waters was deemed probable, and was, indeed, looked for on Sunday night. The wind, however, still continuing in the south-west, the tide, though high, was not then sufficiently so to cause any fear; but there was a change in the direction of the wind on the Monday night; it became northerly, which brought the tide up at an alarming rate. At half-past two in the morning the river began to overflow, simultaneously at all points of its course, and a scene of great excitement ensued. In the Nine Elms district of Lambeth, when the water first made its appearance in the roadways, the police and any persons they could get to assist them commenced a vigorous knocking at all the doors of the houses likely to be flooded, at the same time shouting, "Water's over!"—a cry too well known in the neighbourhood. Within ten minutes, where there had before been not a dozen persons, several thousand were to be seen imperfectly clad, many of them striving to put up barriers at the doors of their houses, or at the entrance to narrow streets, lanes, and alleys. The roadways of Nine Elms-lane and the Wandsworth-road were covered, and in the former thoroughfare especially the water was running down the street with the rapidity of a mill-stream. The Nine Elms goods'-yard, which abuts on the river, was soon covered. All the porters engaged there had to retreat, and the place became one pool of water, with boxes, barrels, and all sorts of goods intended for transit floating about. Flowing through the gates, the water crossed the road and poured into the adjacent streets. On all occasions of flood there is a particular street in this district which suffers more than others—Southampton-street—opposite the goods'-yard and below the level of the river. Here the poor people had barely time to get out of the houses when the water rushed in and speedily rose to the ceilings of the first floor. Some persons had moved the little furniture they possessed to more secure quarters, but in most cases their beds and bedding and furniture were destroyed. The houses are now uninhabitable, and must continue so for a long period. In the Wandsworth-road the inhabitants were soon aroused. As the neighbourhood has among its residents several hundreds of men and lads employed in the sheds of the London and South-Western Railway Company, a large number of women and children took shelter in these buildings, having been obliged to leave their homes. Other women and children, not so fortunate, took refuge in coffee-shops or in the houses of kind friends. In Portland-street the water entered at least a hundred houses, and caused a vast amount of distress. Vigorous efforts were made by many on the first appearance of the water to put in practice the schemes which had been devised to resist it; but in no single case, in this district at any rate, do they appear to have been successful. The tradesmen suffered very heavily, most of the cellars having eight and ten feet of water in them; all sorts of goods were destroyed. All the horses belonging to the London and South-Western Railway, whose stables were adjacent, were safely removed. The whole of the works of the London and South-Western Railway Company were covered with water, and hundreds of men were temporarily thrown out of work. During that night numbers of persons, rendered homeless by the floods, had to seek shelter in the workhouses, but many were received in the school-houses in the neighbourhood, which were thrown open to them by the clergy. Here not only was sleeping accommodation provided, but food. By this means much distress, especially among women and young children, was alleviated, and the same shelter was made available so long as the distress continued. Throughout the entire district the clergy have exhibited the heartiest interest in the work of mercy. They visited all the parts inundated, and sought out and obtained full information of the distress, in order to concert measures for its relief. To render their efforts successful, further aid both in money and kind is still greatly needed. Along the whole tidal course of the river great misery has been caused, many persons having lost nearly everything they possessed. Besides the efforts of the clergy, local committees are being organised; and at public meetings strong influence is brought to bear to induce the Metropolitan Board of Works to take such measures as will prevent a recurrence of such a sad disaster.

The inundations of the Wey in the neighbourhood of Guildford, and of the Thames between Kingston and Richmond, are shown in several of our Illustrations. On Wednesday week the view beheld from Kingston Bridge was very striking. The towing-path was completely submerged; the Home Park, which is Crown property and extends to Hampton Court, was covered with water as far as the eye could reach. It appeared like an immense lake, the surface of which was broken by numerous trees. River traffic was almost entirely stopped. The town of Kingston, being situated on a rather higher level, escaped much damage from the inundations, but the cellars of most of the houses were flooded. A large portion of the parish of East Moulsey was under water, the floods extending from Hampton racecourse to Hampton-Court Bridge, a distance of about a mile; the damage done is considerable. The aits or islets in this part of the river were also submerged. At a meeting of the East Moulsey Local Board, Mr. Harwood, one of the members, stated that he had waded thigh-deep through the water in order to ascertain the extent and probable cause of the mischief. He believed that if an embankment opposite Garrick's Temple, at Hampton, which had been washed away, were kept up, the parish would be almost, if not entirely, preserved from such a disastrous inundation in future. It was resolved to call the attention of the Thames Conservators to the matter. At Richmond many acres of the Old Deer Park were flooded, and the grounds of houses on the banks of the Thames were inundated. At Teddington the tide rose so high as to surround the parish church, a portion of the churched being flooded. Watermen drove a brisk trade in conveying City gentlemen to and from their residences in that village.

The floods in the city of Lincoln are thus described by the *Lincolnshire Chronicle* of last week:—

"On Saturday both the Witham and Fossdyke were so full that an overflow appeared imminent. On Sunday the rivers began to overflow their boundaries, and in the east and west parts of the city the water found its way into the streets. It continued gradually to rise; consequently those who inhabited houses near the water-side became anxious about their own welfare and also the safety of their goods and chattels. In many instances the lower rooms were abandoned, and all movable articles removed to safe quarters. On Monday morning the water had made great headway, and many persons awoke to find the lower part of their dwellings flooded with water. This was more particularly the case along the water-side in the east and south adjoining the Witham and Sincil Dyke. The inhabitants of the Great Northern-terrace were entirely inundated; and such was the case along the banks of the Sincil Dyke for a considerable distance north and south of the Monson-street bridge. The roadways in the quarters mentioned were covered with water to a considerable depth, and as the water continued rising the excitement of the

inhabitants became more and more intense. In close proximity to the Stamp End Locks matters had assumed even a much more serious aspect, the water rising in some instances up to the window-sills of the houses. Owing to the back-yards of the houses being flooded, some disagreeable sights were to be witnessed in this quarter. Ripon-street and Canwick-road were flooded for a considerable distance, traffic, except by means of vehicles, being entirely stopped. In the west part of the town the state of affairs was not quite so bad, notwithstanding many of the streets leading from the river-side into the principal thoroughfares were quite blocked up with water. The Mayor visited the places flooded on Monday afternoon, and gave instructions for carts and horses to ply along the streets where the water was out, in order to convey working men and others to and from their homes, and to remove those families, resident in the flooded houses, who wished to be taken away. On Monday evening some alarming rumours were afloat, which had the effect of greatly increasing the excitement in many parts of the city. It was reported that, owing to the exceptionally high tides, the large body of water passing from the rivers could not find an outlet in Boston, consequently the extraordinary pressure upon the numerous dykes would cause the banks to give way, and so greatly increase the flood. Fortunately, however, on Monday night the rain abated and a frost set in, and throughout the whole of Tuesday the weather was fine overhead. This, however, had very little effect upon the floods in the city, probably owing to the high tides referred to, for in the morning, in some parts, the depth of water was greater than ever. From an elevated position, the scene presented on Tuesday morning was one without parallel, so far as Lincoln is concerned. In the flooded districts the streets presented the appearance of tributaries of two turbulent streams, whilst below the Stamp End Locks, in the direction of Washington, the country was covered with water, the trees alone serving as landmarks. Traffic on the railway in that direction was almost stopped, and the company wisely adopted the plan of discontinuing the heavy goods-train traffic, for fear of an accident. The Witham, in the direction of Bracebridge, had overflowed the bank on both sides, and the fields were flooded for a considerable distance. Some time must elapse before it can be got away, seeing that there is only a very small outlet. The bulk of the water will have to be got rid of by means of pumping, and this cannot be commenced until the lower parts have been relieved. After midday, on Tuesday, the water subsided considerably in the lower part of the city, and hopes were entertained that the climax had been reached. The quick fall of the water, however, was attributed in a great measure to the bursting of the Branston Delph; consequently, the whole of Branston Fen was soon flooded. This appears to be the real solution of the sudden subsidence of water, inasmuch as the height of the water in the Witham, near to Bargate Weir, had not diminished in the least. No rain fell during Tuesday, and the night set in frosty, which was looked upon as a very hopeful sign. On Wednesday, however, the rain again commenced, and continued, with very slight interruption, until about three o'clock on Thursday morning. Indeed, the flood ultimately reached a point 14 in. higher than the inundation of 1852."

According to a statement made by Mr. Glaisher, the rainfall in the month of December was very nearly six inches, there having been no previous instance for sixty-two years of so large a fall during the same period of the year.

A committee at the Mansion House, presided over by the Lord Mayor of London, has opened a subscription for the relief of distress caused by these floods throughout the country. The Royal Bounty Fund has contributed a donation of £250, and the Common Council of London has voted a sum for this purpose. Her Majesty has contributed £50 to the local fund at Windsor.

THE ARLESEY RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

The Coroner's inquest upon the bodies of the five persons who were killed in the railway collision at Arlesey, on Dec. 23, was brought to a close yesterday week, the jury returning the following verdict:—"We are of opinion that Thomas Pepper and John Lovell, the driver and fireman of the 2.45 express on the 23rd ult., met their deaths by jumping from the engine of the said train at Arlesey; that Lucy Thompson, Abigail Longstaff, and Maurice Michael, passengers by the 2.45 express, lost their lives, on the 23rd, at Arlesey, in a collision occasioned by the neglect of the driver to observe his signals, and at that time the inefficient carrying out of the block system on the Great Northern Railway. We beg further to state that, in our opinion, Philip Walters, the station-master, William Graves, the signalman, and the other servants of the company at Arlesey are exonerated from all blame in the matter, as they did all they could under the regulations which they worked." Captain Tyler read his report prepared for the Board of Trade to the jury. The report censured some of the company's regulations, or rather the absence of regulations, for working the block system; and Mr. Henry Oakley, the general manager of the Great Northern Railway, who was one of the witnesses, said that the lesson taught by the accident should not be disregarded, and he detailed some very important emendations and extensions of the absolute block system which had been introduced by the directors since the previous sitting of the jury. Before the court closed the foreman said that the jury wished publicly to thank those medical gentlemen who had so kindly and promptly rendered aid to the wounded at the time of the accident.

Captain Tyler has reported to the Board of Trade that the collision that occurred on the 6th ult. on the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway, and by which twenty passengers were injured, was caused by inefficiency of the signals at the Upper Abbey Mills Junction. The collision that occurred on the 9th ult. at the St. John's-wood-road station of the Metropolitan and St. John's-wood Railway was caused by a stupid mistake on the part of the signalman.

At a meeting of the Wolverhampton School Board, yesterday week, it was resolved that fifty girls from the board schools should be sent to the School of Cookery for instruction during a term of twenty lessons, at a cost of £20.

It was announced, some few weeks ago (says the *Morning Post*), that the only son of a noble Irish family had enlisted into "a crack cavalry regiment." Lord Berchavon was the nobleman alluded to, and the regiment the 2nd Life Guards, in which his Lordship remains, and has recently been promoted to corporal.

The funeral of Sir Titus Salt took place, yesterday week, at Saltaire. There was a procession of upwards of seventy carriages, and amongst those who followed were Mr. Forster, M.P., Lord F. Cavendish, M.P., and Mr. Ripley, M.P. The officiating ministers were the Rev. R. D. Cowan, of Saltaire; the Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Bradford; and the Rev. R. Balgarnie, of Scarborough. A memoir of Sir Titus Salt was given in our last Number; and his portrait appeared in this Journal Oct. 2, 1869, at the time he was created a Baronet.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

COLOURED FLAMES.—SPECTRUM ANALYSIS.

Professor Gladstone, F.R.S., began his fourth lecture on the Chemistry of Fire, on Thursday week, by showing, by means of wire placed between the poles of a voltaic battery, how some solid bodies, strongly heated, become successively red hot and white hot and then burn; after which he exhibited several combustions of gases and vapours which gave flames differing not only in brightness but also in colour. The flame of sulphur was blue and feebly luminous, that of the metal potassium was violet-coloured, and that of magnesium was an intensely brilliant bluish white. He next showed that various salts impart a special colour to ordinary flames, such as that of coal-gas or spirits of wine; producing green flames by compounds of barium, blue or green by copper, red by lithium or strontium, and yellow by sodium. After exhibiting the beautiful colours produced by passing the electric discharge through tubes containing rarefied gases—such as oxygen, hydrogen, ammonia, and common air—he availed himself of the electric lamp to cast a powerful light upon certain bodies, termed fluorescent, which absorbed light and retained it for a time after the electric light was withdrawn. By means of the lamp he projected a beautiful prismatic spectrum upon a screen, and, after explaining how the different coloured rays which make up white light are bent out of their course in different degrees by passing through a prism, he showed how the gases and the vapours of different bodies, placed between the glowing carbon-points of the lamp, gave different spectra as well as flames; thus, silver vapour gave a green band, and sodium a yellow one. He then illustrated the way in which this "spectrum analysis," by means of which the presence of excessively minute particles of a metal, such as sodium, may be detected in a flame, had become a valuable method of research; since by its means five new metals had been discovered—caesium and rubidium, by Kirchhoff and Bunsen; thallium, by Mr. William Crookes; indium, by Reich and Richter; and gallium, by Lecoq de Boisbaudran (all between 1860 and 1875). The coloured flames and spectra of several of these metals were beautifully shown. Dr. Gladstone further explained how by spectrum analysis we had been enabled to detect the presence of hydrogen, sodium, magnesium, iron, and several other substances in the atmosphere of the sun and of the brighter fixed stars, and even to form some idea of what is taking place in them, such as the rise and fall of excessive brilliancy. His remarks were illustrated by the exhibition of various slides of spectra, lent him by Dr. William Huggins, F.R.S., who has devoted much attention to the spectrum analysis of the light of the heavenly bodies, including the nebulae, comets, and the aurora.

HEAT.—GUNPOWDER.

Professor Gladstone devoted the first part of his fifth lecture, given on Saturday last, to experimental illustrations of the heat produced by chemical combination, especially showing that the temperature at which combining bodies become luminous varies with their nature; that the heat necessary for the ignition of various substances differs greatly (as shown in lighting a fire with paper, wood, and coal); that some flames are much hotter than others; and that the combustion of bodies is much affected by their differing power of conduction of heat. Thus, finely divided iron took fire when cast into a flame, while gunpowder passed through unburnt. A little gun-cotton was set on fire without burning some gunpowder on which it was placed. The pale flame of hydrogen was referred to as much hotter than that of coal gas. Paper enveloping a poker did not ignite on the application of fire through the good conduction of the metal, and our stoves were said to be preserved from combustion through the formation of an oxide and the conducting power of the metal. After showing that a little water poured upon a red-hot body rolled about, not coming into actual contact through the formation of a layer of vapour (which is termed the spheroidal condition of liquids), the Professor said that this explains how the fingers when moist may be dipped with impunity into molten metals, and how red-hot bars may be touched without hurt, adding that this may probably account for the result of many of the ancient ordeals by fire, which he illustrated by bearing some red hot coal in his hand covered with asbestos, and by dipping his fingers in some melted tin. To do this with safety, the metal must be sufficiently hot to convert moisture into vapour. In the latter part of the lecture Dr. Gladstone illustrated the properties of gunpowder, which was shown to vary in its effects according to the proportions in which the nitre, charcoal, and sulphur are mixed, and the mode in which it is granulated; and he referred to its use in warfare, in the blasting of rocks, and in the manufacture of fireworks. He adverted to its probable use by the Greeks, and to the Chinese fire, probably made about the beginning of the Christian era. Beautiful coloured effects in fireworks were shown to be produced by mixing the powder with various salts. He stated that ordinary gunpowder by explosion is converted into gases, which when cold occupy about 280 times the original bulk, but which are enormously expanded by the heat of ignition. To this is due the propelling force of gunpowder. Gun-cotton and nitro-glycerine are now employed for explosions of great local violence. Many interesting experiments were given after the lecture was concluded. A heated iron ball retained its redness for some time under water. When it cooled the water boiled.

PRODUCTION AND EXTINCTION OF FIRE.

Professor Gladstone began his sixth and concluding lecture, on Tuesday last, with illustrations of the earliest known methods of procuring fire, such as striking flints and the friction of two pieces of wood, and exhibited and used the now old-fashioned flint, steel, and tinder-box, with sulphur-tipped matches. He then explained some of the chemical means invented to obtain a light in the first half of the present century, which were eventually superseded by various forms of the lucifer. These consist essentially of a match tipped with a paste containing a combustible, such as phosphorus, and bodies which readily give up to it their oxygen on friction, such as chlorate of potash. In Bryant and May's matches, which ignite only on the box, the two elements are separated. After commenting on the various ways in which man has made fire his servant, for warmth, light, cooking, reducing ores and working metals, producing and working machinery, the Professor showed how flames, by vibrating tubes, may produce musical notes; and he alluded to the pyrophone, a keyed instrument, resembling an organ, on which tunes can be played, and which has been recently exhibited at South Kensington. He also exhibited the sensitiveness of gas-flames, which literally danced to a tune performed by a musical box. Convincing demonstration was next given of the extreme necessity of proper ventilation, both to supply sufficient air to the fuel in our fires and lamps and to carry off the injurious products of combustion, such as carbonic acid and carbonic oxide. Accidental fires having been noticed and dangerous carelessness censured, some remarks were made on spontaneous combustion, and examples were mentioned of this occurring in hay, cotton-waste, small coal, and iron pyrites; by the slacking of lime, the friction of machinery, lightning, intense sunshine, leakage of gas in houses, domestic animals, and the concentration of the sun's rays by bull's-eyes and globes of water. In

conclusion, the Professor described how fire may be extinguished: either by cutting off the supply of oxygen or by cooling down the burning substance. For both these purposes water is of immense value, because of its remarkable power of absorbing heat while still liquid and while being converted into vapour, and because as steam it excludes the air. Among other illustrations, the Professor set fire to the muslin dress of a large doll, and immediately extinguished the flames by enveloping it in a rug. Another muslin dress was shown to be uninflammable, having been steeped in a solution of tungstate of soda. After various chemical processes for producing large quantities of gases that will not support combustion had been noticed, Mr. Sinclair instantaneously put out a large artificial conflagration by means of his "extincteur," one of the processes referred to.

Professor Alfred H. Garrod will, on Tuesday next, the 16th inst., begin a course of ten lectures on the Human Form, its structure in relation to its contour; Dr. C. It. Alder-Wright will, on Thursday next, begin a course of four lectures on the Metals and the chief industrial uses of these bodies and their compounds; and Mr. Ernst Pauer will, on Saturday next, give the first of two lectures on the Nature of Music, the Italian, French, and German schools, with illustrations on the piano-forte. At the first Friday evening meeting of the season, on Jan. 19, Professor Tyndall will give a discourse on a Combat with an Infective Atmosphere.

LONDON INSTITUTION LECTURES.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH NOVEL.

Professor Henry Morley gave the first of two lectures on the History of the English Novel, at the London Institution, on the 4th inst. The origin of the modern novel was, he said, a very respectable one, the first novelists being a philosopher and a Bishop; the one an African, who laid his scene in Thessaly, and the other a Thessalian, who laid the scene in Africa. About the middle of the second century the story of "The Golden Ass" was produced by Apuleius. It included the story of "Cupid and Psyche," and was worked in to some extent by Boccaccio and by Cervantes, and was also part of the robber's episode in "Gil Blas." The "Ethiopica" of Heliodorus, Bishop of Thessica, was, in fact, a novel, and began, as G. P. R. James might begin, with:—"On a certain morning on the coast of Egypt certain banditti might have been seen." The origin of the "novel" was traced through "novus" to the diminutive "novella" or "small news." In the twelfth century the romances of Arthur came in, and during the reign of Stephen, Geoffrey of Monmouth made it his province to give the charm of a novel to his "British Chronicle." In the reign of Henry II., Walter Map spiritualised the animalism of these old romances by the introduction of the legend of the "Holy Grail," and from that time the religious element in the Arthurian Romances was impressed on the hearts of the people. Glancing at the Italian poets of the fourteenth century—Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio—the lecturer attributed to the "Decameron" of the last mentioned the first general use of the word "novel" in the present sense. Between 1350 and 1400 the line of Spanish romances of chivalry began with "Amadis of Gaul," by Vasco de Lobeira, a Portuguese, and was based on an old Welsh legend. It was the romances of this class that "Don Quixote" was intended to laugh out of Europe. Up to the Elizabethan period novels were all short stories told with amusing simplicity, and were innocent of any analysis of character or description of scenery. Travelling in Italy being the fashion at that time, Englishmen came home imbued with the spirit of the Italian "novella" and the desire to talk like Italian gentlemen, a fashion that was rebuked in Roger Ascham's "Schoolmaster." The Elizabethan novel, "Euphues," by Lilly, was a great favourite in that day, and gave rise to a considerable group of similar works. The "Arcadia" of Sir Philip Sidney was quoted as another illustration. The lecture was enlivened by the felicitous recital of some of the most naively entertaining stories of the old romances, and was received with much approbation by the assembly.

The second lecture, which was given on Thursday last, will probably be noticed in our next issue.

HEALTHY HOMES.

Dr. B. W. Richardson (who has projected, under the title of "Hygeia," a city which shall show the lowest mortality—a site on the Sussex coast having been secured for the said City of Health) gave, on Monday evening, the first of two addresses on Health Improvement in Great Cities. Having sketched in a lucid manner the progress of sanitary science since the treatise of the Rev. Stephen Hales, Rector of Teddington, appeared in 1733—from which time all our new knowledge of a sanitary kind might be dated—the lecturer summed up the matter in the following requirements:—Pure air, pure water, freedom from damp, sunlight, and equable temperature, which were the five fingers of the right hand of health.

He then described the arrangements with respect to sanitation of a middle-class house, which style of residence, though comparatively new, had in it all the errors of which he complained. He especially condemned the basement, the rooms being condensing-chambers for water, which, evaporating during the day, was carried, with sundry emanations, over the house. The basement was even used for sleeping, every dark nook and cupboard being sometimes the receptacle of a shut-up bed; and he had seen a house in which sixteen servants slept underground, where they could not see to dress themselves without artificial light. The staircase was the great source of draught, and it rendered equable temperature impossible. Dr. Richardson then drew a picture of the sort of house which he should like to see take the place of the one that he condemned. He would build a house on a basement of three arches, which should be thoroughly ventilated and applied to various purposes, but which should have no direct communication with the house. His staircase he would have in a separate shaft at the back, each floor communicating with it by a door, so that the floors would be what might be called flats, and each of them could be ventilated independently. A lift and the water-closets he would dispose in a similar manner. On the third floor he would place the kitchen at the front and the servants' dormitories at the back, and from a pipe in the kitchen hot water could be conveyed to every floor, which should have its separate sink and dust-shaft, so that there would be no going up and down stairs with pails and dust-boxes. At the top of the house he would have, on a firm, almost level, asphalted roof, a brick and glass-covered garden, equal in extent to the area of the house. Into this the staircase would finally enter, and any emanations from the lower part of the house would be eaten up wholesomely by the living vegetation. Heated readily from the kitchen, the garden might have at all times a summer temperature; the children could engage in luxurious and healthful play; the ladies would find occupation in the cultivation of flowers and evergreens, and in it the sterner sex might spend those hours which were now found so unspeakably dull, owing to the monotony of one or two rooms. In this garden, with the pleasant, the natural,

and the beautiful, Health would be trained, and Happiness, her dependent sister, nourished.

Professor Ella being compelled by ill health to abstain from lecturing this season, the vacancies thus created on the evenings of Jan. 18 and Feb. 15 will be filled by Mr. W. A. Barrett, Mus. Bac. Oxon, joint author of Stainer and Barrett's "Dictionary of Musical Terms." His first lecture will be on English Madrigal Composers, and will be illustrated by a choir of twenty voices, selected from the Chapel Royal, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Lincoln's-inn Chapel, &c., who will render eleven compositions by Edwards, Byrd, Wilbye, Dowland, Morley, Bennett, Bateson, Gibbons, Linley, De Pearsall, and Walmisley. The second lecture will be on English Glee Composers.

THE POWER AND DUTY OF WORKING MEN.

Mr. William Rathbone, M.P. for Liverpool, gave, last Tuesday, an address in the Concert-Hall, Liverpool, on the power, responsibility, and duty of the working men of this country; who must decide whether our national greatness and well-being are to decline or whether the country is to become more happy and prosperous. Our country was now having greater foreign competition than it ever had before; and he remarked that France, owing to the saving habits of her people, was in a fair way to take the place of England as the financial centre of the world. The working classes were now receiving a much larger proportion of the earnings and income of the country than had hitherto fallen to their share, and if they prudently saved a due proportion of their increased wages, then not only would those higher wages be a real and permanent benefit to themselves, but to the country at large. But if they went on spending unproductively so large a proportion of their earnings, the country would lose the command it had hitherto had of the trade and manufactures of the world. He believed that a considerable portion of the wages of the working classes of this country had during the last two years come out of capital and not out of income.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

The mildness of the season has somewhat retarded the advent of veritable "toilettes d'hiver" in Paris. For "costumes de promenade" the time-honoured rotonde is this year altogether discarded, and is replaced by long mantles edged with fur and adjusted to the shape. Tight-fitting paletots Russes are also worn on the Boulevard and on the Bois; and long trains are more than ever in vogue for outdoor as well as indoor wear. The "robe princesse" still reigns supreme both for ordinary "toilettes d'intérieur" and for "toilettes de bal;" but it is now worn laced behind, and trimmed with galons of passementerie embroidered with flowers or arabesques in gay-coloured tints. The chapeaux, this winter, are almost exclusively trimmed with feathers, and feathers and swans-down are also largely employed for the adornment of "toilettes de bal." At recent gatherings of the grand monde a few élégantes appear to have inaugurated a new mode—that of trimming ball-dresses with fur; an innovation against which all the leading critics of fashion vehemently protest. Specimens of the various styles of feminine costume which have inaugurated the New Year will be found in the accompanying Engraving, to the annexed description of which we refer our fair readers for further information concerning the latest novelties of "La Mode Parisienne."

THE ILLUSTRATION.

Fig. 1. Toilette d'intérieur of dark blue faille and velvet. Over the velvet jupe à traine is worn a faille drapery, edged with a galon of brocaded velvet. The "corsage cuirasse" is of faille, with velvet collar and sleeves, the latter being trimmed with cuffs and bows of faille.

Fig. 2. Toilette de bal of rose-colour satin, the corsage princesse of which is laced behind with a cordon of white silk, and edged with lace and guipure, while a garland of tea-roses and leaves borders the upper jupe, which is caught up on either side. The under jupe, which is à traine, is trimmed with three superposed flounces of lace. A bouquet of tea-roses is worn on the crown of the head, with a sprig of the same flowers dropping behind.

Fig. 3. Costume de promenade, in maroon-colour fancy tissu, the "tunique princesse" of which is edged with a deep greclet fringe. A similar fringe ornaments the broad velvet sash and the bottom of the jupe, which is à demie-traine. The chapeau of black velvet is trimmed with bows and feathers of the same colour as the robe.

Fig. 4. Toilette de promenade, composed of a robe of black velvet, over which is worn a dark-green double-breasted paletot of fancy stuff, lined with wadding and edged with fur, and having side pockets of the prevailing pattern trimmed with large bows. The Chapeau Diavoli is of green faille with a large black ostrich-feather falling behind.

Fig. 5. Toilette d'intérieur for a little girl, in white cashmere, with epaulettes, cuffs, and sash of blue satin, and the skirt of which is plaited. The stockings are striped blue and white, and the boots are of white satin.

Fig. 6. Toilette de visite, composed of a robe of violet velvet with "corsage cuirasse" and "demie-traine" of grey brocaded silk, edged with a band of passementerie embroidered with roses and foliage. The velvet jupe is trimmed in front with flounces of brocaded silk, cut en biais, and edged with fringe. The chapeau, which is covered with velvet, is caught up on each side with silk bands, and trimmed with ostrich-feathers falling behind.

Fig. 7. Costume de promenade, composed of a paletot Russo in light brown tissu, cut to the shape and edged with black fur. The cuffs and side pockets are trimmed with fur and passementerie; while the upper jupe, also edged with fur, falls over a train of dark-brown silk. The chapeau has short strings, and is trimmed with ostrich-feathers.

Fig. 8. Toilette d'intérieur, in grey cachemire de l'Inde, with a tunique princesse, cut en biais in front, and edged with a chicorée of guipure.

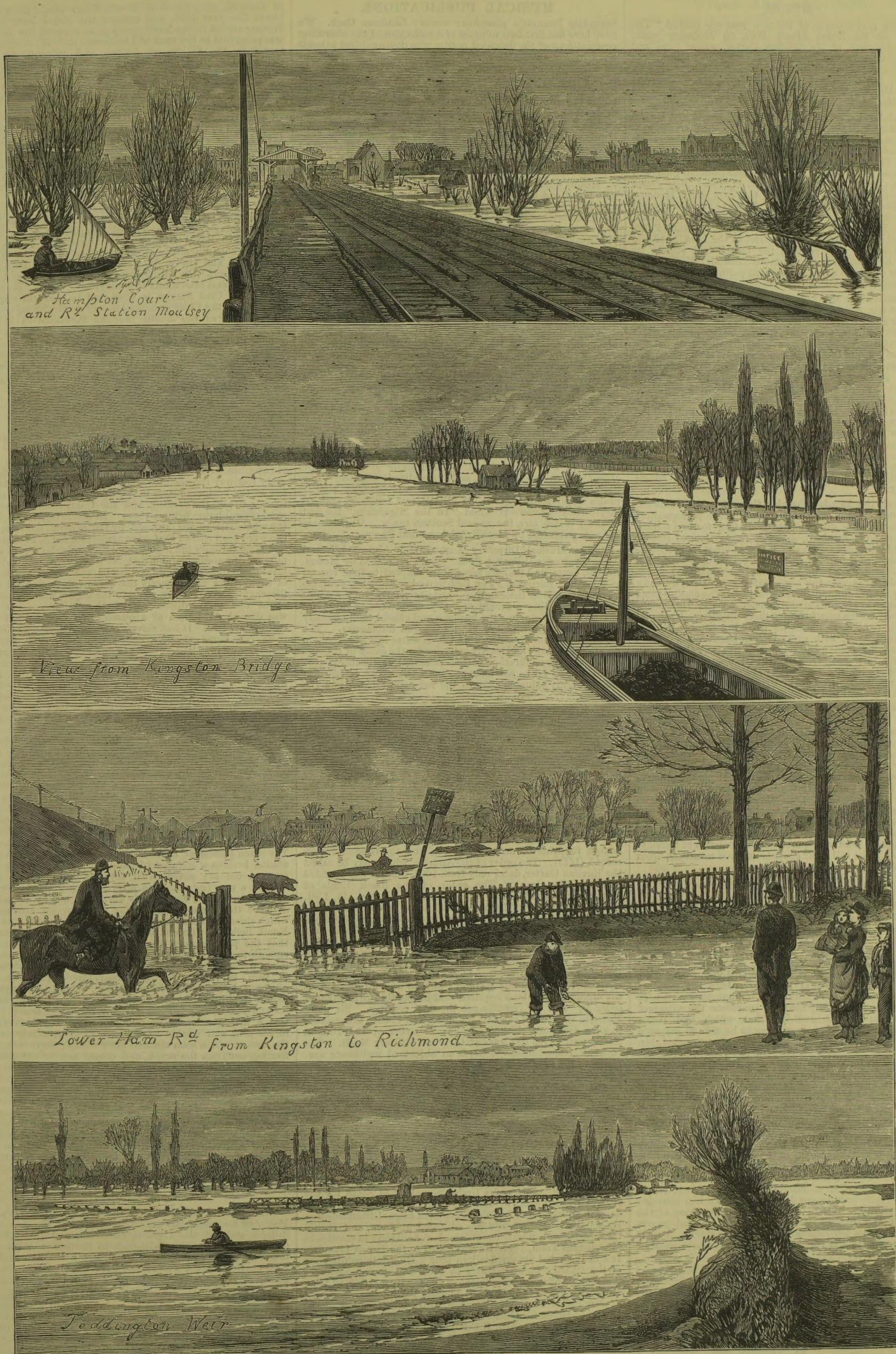
Fig. 9. Costume de promenade, composed of a long mantle in black silk, cut to the shape, and edged and lined with fur. Chapeau rond, trimmed with cocks'-feathers.

Costume de promenade for a young girl, in grey plaid, composed of a tight-fitting double-breasted paletot, and upper and lower jupe edged with pleated flounces. Chapeau Tyrolien, caught up at the left side, and trimmed with bows and coques of ribbon.

A year ago Mr. Robinson, editor and proprietor of the *Garden*, began the issue of coloured plates with every number of his journal. They are from original drawings, by the best flower and fruit painters, of the most valuable new or rare plants. Each plant chosen for illustration is usually a member of some important family, and the plate is accompanied by an article enumerating and describing all the kinds and embodying all that is known up to the present day concerning each great family of cultivated plants. These coloured plates greatly enhance the beauty and value of the periodical.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR.



FLOODS ALONG THE THAMES.

MUSIC.

The earliest performance of the new year was that of "The Messiah," at the Royal Albert Hall, on Thursday week, under the direction of Mr. William Carter, whose large and efficient choir gave the choruses with excellent effect; the principal solo-singers having been Mesdames L. Sherrington and Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd and Signor Foli. Mr. T. Harper's trumpet obbligato was, as usual, an important incidental feature. Mr. E. Bending presided at the organ.

On the following evening, "Elijah" was performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall; the choruses having been rendered with immense power by the large choir engaged here. The grand climax to the first part of the oratorio, "Thanks be to God," produced a special impression. The principal solo vocalists were Mesdames Sherrington and Patey, Mr. Wilford Morgan and Mr. G. Fox; Miss Jessie Jones having been the soprano in the duet (with Madame Patey) "Zion spreadeth her hands." In some of the concerted pieces, efficient aid was rendered by this lady, Miss Hancock, Mr. Carter, Mr. C. Henry, and Mr. De Lacy. Madame Patey was encored in the contralto air "O rest in the Lord," and the quartet "Cast thy burden upon the Lord," had also to be repeated. Sir Michael Costa conducted, and Mr. Willing presided at the organ, as usual. The next performance will take place on Jan. 26, when Handel's "Solomon" will be given.

On Saturday last the London Ballad Concerts, under the direction of Mr. John Booze, opened their eleventh season at St. James's Hall, which was filled to overflowing. Mr. Sims Reeves fulfilled his engagement, and sang, in his usual admirable manner, Pinsuti's new song, "Smile, and bid me live," "The Pilgrim of Love," and (in reply to the encore of this) "Come into the garden, Maud." Other successful vocal performances were contributed by Mesdames Sherrington and Antoinette Sterling, Miss Anna Williams, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. A. Kenningham, and Mr. Wadmore, besides some capital part-singing by the gentlemen of the London Vocal Union. Madame Arabella Goddard played with brilliant execution, Thalberg's fantasia on the serenade from "Don Pasquale," and Jules Sivrai's "Balmoral Fantasia" on Scotch airs. The pianist was encored in each of her performances. Mr. Sidney Naylor accompanied the vocal music with care and skill. The second concert takes place next Wednesday evening.

This week the Monday Popular Concerts were resumed, after the usual brief Christmas recess. The performances began with Mozart's divertimento in B flat, for two violins, viola, violoncello, contrabass, and two horns—one of several such works by the same composer. It was given on this occasion for the fifth time, and received an admirable rendering from Herr Strauss, MM. L. Ries, Zerbini, Piatti, and Reynolds at the stringed instruments, the horn parts having been worthily rendered by Mr. Wendland and Mr. Standen. The closing piece of the concert was Haydn's string quartet in C (No. 2 of op. 50), which had not before been heard at these concerts. Its genial beauty will, doubtless, secure its early repetition. Mdlle. Marie Krebs played, with great effect, Beethoven's Sonata Appassionata for pianoforte solo, and was associated with Signor Piatti in a fine performance of the same composer's first duet-sonata for piano and violoncello, in F. Vocal pieces were rendered by Mdlle. Thekla Friedländer, with her usual success. Mr. Zerbini was an efficient accompanist. The first afternoon performance of the new year takes place to-day (Saturday).

The New-Year's Festival and Concert of the London Sunday-School Choir was held, at the Royal Albert Hall, on Monday evening, when a selection of pieces, sacred and secular, was effectively sung by about 1800 voices—selected from various Sunday schools attached to the association—conducted by Mr. Luther Hinton. The institution has been formed for the purpose of promoting and improving part-singing amongst Sunday-school teachers and scholars, and seeks to cultivate Christian unity amongst Sunday-school workers of all denominations. Classes, under the direction of seventy-four local conductors, meet for the practice of Sunday-school pieces. The full choir consists of 6958 members, from 119 schools.

THEATRES.

It will be recollect that last year a Parisian play, entitled "Les Danisheff," was acted at the St. James's by a French company, including Madame Fargueil, Mdlle. Hélène Petit, Mdlle. Antonine, and M. Marais, and rose at once, on the score of its intrinsic merits, to popularity. It was reproduced on Saturday in an English version, with a thoroughly competent cast, including Mrs. John Wood, Miss Lydia Foote, Miss Fanny Addison, Mr. Hermann Vezin, Mr. John Clayton, and Mr. Charles Warner. There are several unimportant variations from the original, probably made to conciliate the supposed prejudices of an English audience, but which had better never been attempted. It is gratifying to be able to say with truth that the characters were one and all ably supported, Mr. Charles Warner especially shining in the rôle of Vladimir. Mr. Hermann Vezin was really great in De Taldi, and pronounced the satirical speeches with great elocutionary discrimination. Mr. Clayton, as Osip, gave a pathetic interpretation of the character. Mrs. Wood's Princess Lydia was perfect, and Miss Addison's Fargueil extremely good, if not brilliant. In Anna, Miss Lydia Foote proved singularly effective. The curtain fell to vehement applause.

Miss Annie Lafontaine had an opportunity on Saturday morning, at the Haymarket, of again challenging public opinion on her performance of Hester Grazebrook in Mr. Tom Taylor's remarkable comedy of "An Unequal Match," to which the finished acting of Miss Amy Sedgwick gave, for so long a time, such well-deserved celebrity. We can conceive nothing more difficult than a successful assumption of the character of the heroine after that of her original representative; but Miss Lafontaine justified the attempt, and, if not quite equal to her predecessor, at any rate comes off second best.

Mr. John S. Clarke commenced, on Saturday, a new engagement at the Strand. The characters assumed by him were the old ones of Toodles and Babington Jones, "Among the Breakers." He was well assisted by Miss Sally Turner as Mrs. Toodles. His reception was cordial; and he is likely to contribute to the hilarity of the audience for some weeks.

The Attorney-General, on Saturday last, attended a banquet to celebrate the laying of the foundation-stone of a new Conservative club at Preston.

A conference of municipal representatives was held at Birmingham yesterday week, presided over by the Mayor, at which a resolution was passed urging upon the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 the propriety of realising the property under their control, and of applying it in part to grants in aid of building local museums, and in making provision for the purchase of objects suitable for exhibition therein.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

Sterndale Bennett's pianoforte works: Lamborn Cock. We have here the first two volumes of a collection of the charming compositions of the deceased master who distinguished himself alike by his admirable pianoforte playing and his excellent productions for the instrument. The edition now referred to is in a handy large octavo form; the engraving and printing are distinguished by neatness and accuracy; and the price places the work within the reach of purchasers of the most moderate means. The office of editor has been carefully and conscientiously fulfilled by Mr. Arthur O'Leary, a pupil and friend of the composer, from whom he received various suggestions as to the order and arrangement of the pieces. The forthcoming volumes of this publication will complete what has long been a want in the pianist's library.

Mozart's concertos, vol. 1: Messrs. Augener and Co., New-gate-street and Regent-street. This is the commencement of an octavo edition of the numerous charming works composed by Mozart—mostly for his own public performance—with orchestral accompaniments. The volume now referred to is beautifully engraved and printed, and contains six concertos, for the price of as many shillings—edited by Mr. Pauer, who has supplied a second piano part (over the solo part), containing the chief features of the orchestral score. The concertos here given are those in E flat, D minor, B flat, and C major (composed in 1785); in G (1784), and in A major (1786). The continuation of the series will supply a want long felt by pianists of the classical school.

From Messrs. Ashdown and Parry we have some brilliant pianoforte pieces by Mr. Sydney Smith, well written for the display of executive power, while yet not making excessive demands on the performer. In fact, they are all showy and effective without presenting any very great obstacles to a player of moderate attainments. The titles of Mr. Smith's recent productions of this class are:—"Il Trovatore" (an operatic fantasia), "Le Bivouac" (a piece in the martial style), "Airs Ecossais" (variations on well-known national tunes), and "Mosé in Egitto" (founded on Rossini's biblical opera). "La Danse des Sauterelles, Fantasy for the Pianoforte," by Boyton Smith, has much pleasing character; and three pieces by Mr. L. Diehl—"La Maja" ("Mauresque"), "The Magic Harp" (morceau de salon), and "Coralline" (caprice)—may likewise be commended as agreeable and showy; similar praise applying to Mr. E. M. Lott's two fantasias, entitled respectively "Snowdon" and "In the Highlands," the first treating Welsh airs, the second Scottish tunes. All these are likewise published by Messrs. Ashdown and Parry.

"The Musical Directory Annual and Almanack" and "The Professional Pocket-Book" (both published by Messrs. Rudall, Carte, and Co.) are admirably adapted to their special and general purposes. The first-named publication contains a large amount of information specially referring to musical matters, including a record of last year's events of interest; besides which there are the business and official tables usually given in non-professional almanacks and directories. The Pocket-Book has also many of the features last specified, in addition to a daily and hourly calendar for the entry of engagements, and a specification of the principal forthcoming performances, so far as yet known. Both the works referred to will be highly valuable alike to the musical professor and the amateur.

ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

The new order of the Indian Empire will make the 146th order of knighthood in existence, and the seventh British order. The vast majority of orders, it should be observed, date from modern and even very recent times, few indeed being able to trace their origin to the days of chivalry. The oldest is the "Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem," founded in the year 1048, which still boasts a Lieutenant of the Grandmastership and a Sacred College residing at Rome. The Spanish order of Calatrava dates from 1158 and the reign of Sancho III. of Castille. Of the better known orders, however, the Garter is first in point of antiquity (1338), and the Golden Fleece second (1429). The order of St. Andrew, which may be called the Russian Garter, dates only from 1698, when it was founded by Peter the Great. The order of the Black Eagle of Prussia was established by Frederic I. on Jan. 18, 1701, when the Prussian Monarchy was also proclaimed. The first non-Christian order of chivalry—a strange portent it would have seemed to Edward III. or Philip the Good—was created by the Shah of Persia, Feth Ali Khan, in 1808, and is known as the Order of the Lion and Sun. This Prince wished to decorate certain foreigners, and had instituted an order in honour of a French Envoy, which he subsequently offered to a subject of his Britannic Majesty; but he was informed that the dignity of England required that he should institute a new order by way of compliment to that country. Sir John Malcolm was one of the first knights. The French order seems to have died out. China now has its Order of the Dragon (1863), and Japan its Order of Civil and Military Merit. The Order of Kaméhama (1865) is an object of legitimate ambition to the natives of the Sandwich Islands. Among Republican orders may be cited those of San Marino (1859), founded by the "Grand Sovereign Council of the Republic" of St. John of Nicaragua, and of St. Rose of Honduras—all probably purchasable at reasonable rates.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

NEW KNIGHTS OF THE STAR OF INDIA.

Mr. Arthur Hobhouse, Q.C., Second Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor-General of India, is the youngest son of the late Right Hon. Henry Hobhouse, of Hadspen House, Somersetshire, many years Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, by his marriage with Harriet, sixth daughter of the late Mr. John Turton, of Sugnal, Staffordshire. He was born in 1819, and was educated at Eton, and Balliol College, Oxford, where he obtained a first-class in classics in Michaelmas Term, 1840. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1845, and obtained silk in 1862. He was appointed one of the Charity Commissioners in 1866, and a Commissioner under the Endowed Schools Act in 1869. He married, in 1848, Mary, daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Farrer.

Mr. James Fitzjames Stephen, Q.C., late member of the Governor-General's Council, is the eldest son of the late Right Hon. Sir James Stephen, K.C.B., Regius Professor of Modern History at Cambridge (who died in 1859), and grandson of Wilberforce's great friend, Mr. James Stephen, M.P., one of the Masters of the Court of Chancery. He was born about the year 1829, and was educated at Eton, and at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took his Bachelor's degree in 1852. He was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in Hilary Term, 1854, and joined the Midland Circuit. He was made a Q.C. in 1858, and was appointed Recorder of Newark in 1859.

Rear-Admiral Reginald John James George Macdonald, Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's Naval Forces in the Indian seas, is the only son of the late Reginald George Macdonald, Chief of Clanronald (who died in 1873), by his marriage with Lady Caroline Anne Edgcumbe, younger daughter

of Richard, second Earl of Mount Edgecumbe. He was born about the year 1816, and entered the Royal Navy in 1833. Having served in the Mediterranean as mate of the Howe, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 1842; he afterwards served in the Albion, off Lisbon, and subsequently in the Collingwood, bearing the flag in the Pacific of Sir George F. Seymour, to whom he became Signal-Lieutenant in 1847. He became Captain in 1854, and obtained flag rank in 1870. He married, in 1855, the Hon. Adelaide Louisa Warren Vernon, second daughter of George John, fifth Lord Vernon.

Mr. Edward Clive Bayley, C.S.I., third ordinary member of the Council of the Governor-General, was born about the year 1823, and he entered the Indian Civil Service (Bengal Presidency) in 1841. He held for some time the post of Deputy Commissioner in the Punjab. He was afterwards joint magistrate and deputy collector at Azimgurh, and was subsequently appointed Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department.

Sir George Ebenezer Wilson Couper, C.B., of the Bengal Civil Service, is the eldest son of the late Colonel Sir George Couper (many years Equerry and Comptroller of the Household to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent), by his marriage with Elizabeth, second daughter of the late Sir John Wilson, of The Howe, Westmorland. He was born in the year 1824, and was educated at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and afterwards at Haileybury College. He entered the Bengal Civil Service in 1846, and in 1856 was appointed Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Oude, Secretary to the Government of the North Western Provinces in 1858, and Judicial Commissioner in Oude in 1863. He was made a Companion of the Bath (Civil Division) in 1860, in recognition of his services during the Mutiny. Sir George Couper, who succeeded to his father's title in 1861, married, in 1853, Caroline, daughter of the late Mr. Henry Every, and sister of the present Sir Henry Every.—*Globe*.

THE OHIO RAILWAY DISASTER.

The *New York Herald* of Dec. 30 gives the following account of the terrible railway accident at Ashtabula, Ohio:—

"One of the most furious snowstorms ever known in this vicinity has been raging nearly all day, and deep drifts made every roadway impassable. So severe was the storm that very few of the business places in Ashtabula kept open doors after four or five in the evening, and the trains from all directions were several hours behind time. At about eight o'clock p.m. the whole village was aroused by the general fire alarm, and the word soon spread that passenger-train No. 5, from the east, had gone through the high bridge over Ashtabula with a large number of passengers, and that the whole train was on fire. A lurid glare in that vicinity confirmed the report, and in spite of the terrible night nearly the whole village and all of the fire-engines were soon en route to the dépôt, which is situated about one mile distant from the village. The train was due at Ashtabula at a quarter past five, and was nearly three hours late. It had eleven cars, including one drawing-room car, three sleepers, one smoking-car, two first-class coaches, and four baggage and express cars. It was drawn by two engines—the Socrates ahead, followed by the Columbia, No. 360. Daniel Maguire, engineer of the Socrates, relates that the train was running at a slow rate, and just as they had fairly crossed the high bridge, which is not more than forty rods distant from the dépôt, they felt a violent jar, and in an instant the coupling between the Socrates and the Columbia had broken, and the whole train was precipitated from the bridge into the river, some 65 ft. below. The bridge over Ashtabula river was an iron truss-bridge, and had been in use about eleven years. It is supposed that the heavy droughts must have thrown the cars from the track, causing the cold irons to snap. The horrible scene below beggars all description. The span is about 100 ft. wide, and through the space between flows the river, about 4 ft. or 5 ft. deep, at this time thickly covered with ice. Into this space were the eleven cars and one engine and tender precipitated. The fall of 60 ft. of course broke through the icy covering, and shivered the cars. The seven passenger coaches altogether contained about 165 adults, besides a number of children. Most of those in the forward car are saved, with injuries more or less severe. Within a very few moments after the crash the flames burst out simultaneously from nearly every car, and before help was at hand the flames were striving with the icy torrent as to which should devour the greater number of human lives. Mr. Frank Belknap, who was one of the earliest at the scene, says that the piteous cries for help from all the victims were enough to wring the stoutest heart. Here was a young and finely-dressed girl of about ten years of age struggling in vain to release her hip from the weight which was crushing her slender form; close behind her were the flames shooting out their forked tongues, which in another instant had enwrapped her in their furious embrace. Here was a fine gentleman of middle age sitting bolt upright in his seat and unable to extricate himself, calmly awaiting the flames, which soon claimed their victim; there were bodies floating out from the wreck, and others not yet suffocated by the icy flood were attempting to make their way to the shore. A crowd soon made their way to the burning débris, and, with the aid of axes and ropes, many were extricated, placed on stretchers, and taken to the top of the hill, where the best of assistance awaited them. The hotels at the dépôt were soon filled, and private houses were thrown open throughout the town. The surgeons of the town rendered all the assistance in their power; but many perished, notwithstanding the best of care, during the night. Others are now lying in a suffering condition in the hotels and private residences. It is estimated that fully one hundred persons have been killed."

The Railway Commissioners have, on the application of the Mayor of Rochester and a number of men of business in that district, ordered the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company and the South-Eastern to provide a train service connecting the railways at Strood, and a through traffic for both passengers and goods; and have directed that the companies shall pay in equal parts the costs of the application.

It is stated that the Palestine Exploration Committee, after a year of work on the laying down and preparation of that portion of the map already executed, have decided on sending out an expedition to complete the survey of Western Palestine. The command will be assumed by Lieutenant H. H. Kitchener, R.E., who was with Lieutenant Conder in 1874-5. He will have a staff of four non-commissioned officers, including Sergeant Armstrong, who has been with the survey from the beginning. He will survey the northern portion, including Galilee, and will then take up one or two unfinished portions of the south, and execute a general revision of the whole country. He proposes to clear out and restore Jacob's Well, for which purpose Miss Peache, of Wimbledon, has given £100, and Dr. Nathaniel Rogers, of Exeter, £50. Lieutenant Conder remains at home working at the reduction to shape of his voluminous notes and the memoirs which will accompany the sheets.

NEW MUSIC.

NELSON'S VICTORY (Braham's Song). Transcribed for the Pianoforte by GEORGE FREDERICK WEST. 4s.—London: ROBERT COCKS and Co., of whom may be had, gratis and post-free, a Catalogue of all Mr. West's popular Music for the Pianoforte.

SPINDLER'S (F.) NEW MUSIC for the PIANOFORTE. Six Elegant Pieces. Each 2s. 6d. 1. Rosebuds. 5. Rappelle Moi. 6. Fresh Flowers. 2. Gay Posies. 4. The Hunterman. 5. Blue Eyes. La Chasse. Morceau caractéristique. 4s. London: ROBERT COCKS and Co.

LEE, MAURICE. LE MENESTREL CLASSIQUE, for the Piano. Each 2s. 6d. 1. Gavotte (J. S. Bach). 7. Aria de Creation (Haydn). 2. Menuet (Haydn). 3. Aria (Handel). 4. Finale of Symphony in C (Beethoven). 5. Finale and Trio in G (Mozart). 6. Musette (Rameau). London: ROBERT COCKS and Co., New Burlington-street.

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